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Ajax to
take
over at
top—p.10

Farrugia
may play
for Malta

By
PHILLIP
MICALLEF

Melita Eagles' popular midfielder Ray Farrugia may cap a memorable season by playing for Malta in the European Championship in December.

Farrugia, 27, has received an invitation from Malta's national coach Victor Scerri to play for his country against Holland and Spain in the coming Group seven qualifying games.

Farrugia is one of the leading rights in Melita's quest for the NSW State League title and his progress is closely followed in the tiny Mediterranean island — not least by Scerri himself.

Scerri has told Farrugia the door was still open for him to play again for his country, after having left Malta in the late seventies.

Scerri said the skill of the Melita player may be useful to the Malta side in its dual confrontation away from home against the Dutch and Spaniards, fighting tooth and nail for a place in the finals next year in France.

"This may well be the most memorable year in my career," a delighted Farrugia said.

"I had given up all hope of ever playing for Malta again after having left the country."

"This comes as a great surprise to me."

Farrugia will spend a holiday in Malta in the latter part of December but will make an early trip on order to be in the training squad two weeks before the first match in Holland which takes place on December 16 at a venue yet to be decided.

Farrugia has only one Maltese cap to his credit, having played against Tunisia in 1977.

Farrugia, popularly known by Sydney's soccer fans as 'Zazu', is having a great season under coach Raul Blanco.

"We've got a great chance of winning the championship and what better way can there be for me to celebrate than to play for Malta again after so many years?" Farrugia said.

Another Maltese player who represented his country many times in competitive football is Green Gully Ajax midfielder Willie Vassallo.

Both Farrugia and Vassallo formed part of the fine Floriana team that won the Maltese championship on a number of occasions in the early seventies.



Ray Farrugia

Croatia, Melita, Juventus for NSL in '84?

Mr Entertainment,
that's O'Connor
—and world—
wide tribute
for 'Davo'!

Wollongong striker Phil O'Connor has been voted the most exciting player in Australia in a comprehensive poll conducted by "Soccer Action."

Full details of the poll appear on page 3.

Runner-up was Alan Davidson (South Melbourne Hellas) who has been given world-wide exposure through this month's issue of the international magazine "World Soccer", which is published in England.

The inside back cover is devoted to a full-page picture of Davidson, who shares the glossy section with Luther Blissett (AC Milan), Jose Alexanko (Barcelona) and the Aberdeen team.

State Leagues are not super

Apostles of the over-publicised "State super leagues" should be asked to explain a thing or two.

To start with — why super league? If the NSL were abandoned and the clubs returned to their own federations, they would play in State leagues as before. And that was anything but super.

In fact, the NSL (PSL then) was created precisely to jettison some of the clubs which were regarded as ballasts.

In Sydney almost all present State League clubs fell into this category, except perhaps Croatia, Melita and Blacktown.

Let us suppose, for argument's sake, that the NSL fell apart and the five Sydney NSL clubs would, amidst frequent genuflecting, return to the NSW State League. Then what?

First of all, five clubs have to be dropped to the Second Division to make room (unless, of course, the

Phil
O'Connor



Alan Davidson, as he appears in this month's "World Soccer."

By LAURIE SCHWAB

A 24-team National League in 1984 — the proposal that looked doomed to defeat at the Australian Soccer Federation meeting last Saturday — now is a distinct possibility.

Instead of voting against the proposal, the major States agreed to hold off until Saturday, when a nine-man sub-committee made up of ASF and NSL officials, tries to find a compromise that will avert open warfare.

But whether the States agree or not, the National League has made it clear that it will increase and regionalise its league nevertheless.

The major States agreed to a sub-committee and a further meeting mainly because of two considerations.

A number of strong State League clubs had let it be known that they would "defect" to the National League whether or not the NSL's proposals were given official blessing.

West Nally's sponsorship of the national teams is dependent upon the existence of a National League. No NSL, no money for the Socceroos, according to ASF president Sir Arthur George.

The National League wants the strongest State League clubs from Victoria and NSW to join the regionalised NSL next season, in order to make the NSL financially more viable.

These clubs include Sydney Croatia, Melbourne Croatia, Juventus, Melita Eagles, Sunshine-George Cross and Green Gully Ajax.

Some are said to have been ready to go to last Saturday's meeting to declare their intention of joining the NSL, regardless of the ASF's wishes.

And so it seems almost certain that the restructuring of the NSL will go ahead. What next Saturday's meeting will determine is whether that restructuring will be a peaceful or a violent one.

The sub-committee comprises: Ian Brusasco (Qld); John Dimtsis (Vic); Karl Rodny (NSW); Peter McCann (ASF vice-president); Sir Arthur George (ASF president); Sam Pappasavas (NSL chairman); Tony Labbozzetta (NSL, Sydney); Guido Canale (NSL, Brisbane) and Dave Dillon (NSL, Canberra).

Under existing regulations, the NSL cannot increase the

The new look

Here is the National League proposal for a 24-team, regionalised competition in 1983 — the proposal that has caused the rift between the NSL and the States:

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

Section A

1. Syd. Olympic
2. St. George
3. Sydney City
4. Marconi
5. APIA
6. new team
7. new team
8. new team

Section B

9. Wollongong
10. Canberra
11. Newcastle
12. new team

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Section A

1. Heidelberg
2. Sth Melb Hellas
3. Makedonia
4. Foots JUST
5. new team
6. new team
7. new team
8. new team

Section B

9. Adelaide City
10. West Adel.
11. Brisbane City
12. Brisbane Lions

Section A teams would play:

1. Home and away against other Section A teams of the same Conference (14 games).
2. Once only against the Section B teams of the same Conference (4 games).
3. Once only against Section B teams of the other Conference (4 games).

Section B teams would play:

1. Once only against the other Section B teams of the same conference (3 games).
2. Once only against the Section A teams of the same Conference (8 games).
3. Once only against the Section A teams of the other Conference (8 games).
4. Once only against three of the four Section B teams of the other Conference (3 games).

Each Conference would have its own points table.

Challenge matches would be added.

Intra-conference challenge matches:

Teams to play three times against other teams from within the same conference, according to positions on the ladder at the time (3 games).

Inter-conference challenge matches:

Teams to play three times against teams from the other conference, according to positions on the ladder at the time (3 games).

Intra-Conference challenge matches (within the one Conference) would be organised on the following basis:

- Top team plays second team;
- Third team plays fourth team;
- Fifth team plays sixth team etc.

continued page 12

By ANDREW DETTRE



NSL clubs would have to work their way up from Division 5 or 6 — which is always a possibility).

Such a decision in itself would trigger off a revolt which could sweep the executive from power.

But let's assume that it would be done peacefully. The five 'Big Clubs' would return to the bosom of Mother.

That would pave the way for what State League lobbyists keep harping about — "local derbies". Yes, such fantastically appealing pairings as Bankstown v Olympic, Sutherland v Marconi, etc.

What people forget is that, until 1977, when the PSL started, we had nothing but local "derbies". And these, except for clashes between the top teams, drew the same pitiful crowds as they do now.

Or are we to believe that in 1984 an Auburn v Yugal match would produce a crowd of 5000 at Mona Park — or the same 100 which it does nowadays?

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'Gento... knocking the ball 20 yards and making it spin back to him ...

How Real Madrid helped make Best great



Meno Tousidis



Alfredo DiStefano



Denis Law



Johan Cruyff



Franz Beckenbauer

George Best, mercurial soccer genius, destroyer of Europe's best defences and the most talked about player of his generation, sits quietly behind a breakfast table in an Adelaide restaurant.

His famous Irish eyes scan a clipping I have handed him.

Would he be happy, I ask, to have that last paragraph as an epitaph on a career which is just two months short of its 20th year?

Best reads the clipping slowly and quietly, without any hint of expression breaking across his handsome bearded face.

He places it on the table and nods in agreement and whispers that he wouldn't have any complaints.

The paragraph?

Best has rightly been described as the player who never appears in a bad photograph: his superb athleticism — especially his sense of balance — make him a cameraman's dream. The sight of him in action, with that glorious, free-flowing run, will not fade from the mass memory. Despite his excesses, his occasional bad manners and lack of taste, he has been brilliant enough, for long enough, to rank with the very greatest players of all time. For that, for the pleasure he has brought to millions, he could be forgiven a great deal.

George Best is not exactly the person you expect to meet. But that's hardly his fault.

He is a reserved man with a polite, warm and genuine persona. The most striking thing about him is that he has no apparent ego.

Talk about the great goals he has scored and the great games in which he has played and he will always underplay his involvement.

Those who are close to Best will tell you he has a cutting sense of humor. Certainly, he has an infectious laugh.

George Best is many things to many people. To some the lasting image is that of a young man, always in a long-sleeved Manchester United shirt, the ball at his feet, gathering pace, a dip of the shoulder, and 50,000 people holding their breath.

It has been a remarkable career. There was of course that marvellous 1968 European Cup win over Benfica in which he scored a scintillating extra time goal which turned the match.

He was crowned European Footballer of the Year just a few months later, but Best took his first steps in winning that award two years earlier in Lisbon when United faced Benfica in a European Cup tie.

United took a precarious 3-2 first-leg lead to the Stadium of Light. Benfica had been unbeaten at home for a year, and its 100,000 fans obviously were confident of winning the tie.

But before they knew what had hit them, Best scored with a header and then ghosted through with superb control to tear Benfica's defence to pieces and put United 2-0 ahead after just 12 minutes. United of course went on to win 5-1.

Best doesn't mind talking of those marvellous days in the 1960s and early 70s, but he is not the type to keep faded newspaper clippings in his wallet.

Certainly, he has great affection for his Manchester United and the men, like Bobby Charlton and Denis Law, who made the club the greatest in the world.

For just under half an hour, Best, accompanied by his genial manager Bill McCulloch, spoke freely about his career, with West Adelaide coach Alan Vest and the club's State League coach Peter Kouzos also sitting in on the interview.

The following is an excerpt of that interview:

TOUSIDIS: When was the last time you visited Old Trafford?

BEST: I went quite regularly last season. I saw quite a few



George Best in 1968 — with his European Player of the Year trophy

games and even played against United four times in exhibition games. It's great being there. It is still special, still the place to be. It's the best ground in England and certainly has the best atmosphere. I enjoy going back because quite a few of the old players go regularly so we have lunch and talk about the old times and have a good day out.

What would you list as your biggest achievements?

Winning the European Cup would be number one, being named European Footballer of the Year and finishing top scorer with a great club for five years.

Was not playing in a World Cup tournament, a major regret?

Yes, that has been a regret but having said that, I wouldn't have been playing for a top team. So it would have been difficult. I would like to have played with a great side in the World Cup, because that's the ultimate, I suppose. But I don't sit around and regret it.

Who is the greatest player you've seen.

Alfredo Di Stefano (Real Madrid) was the most complete player I have seen. You can't compare great players. You can't say Beckenbauer was better than Cruyff or Cruyff was better than Rummenigge. They're different players in their own right. Dennis Law was a great, great player and so was Bobby Charlton but in different ways.

Did you ever play against Di Stefano?

No, but when I first went to Old Trafford, United and Real Madrid used to play regularly in exhibition games. So I had seen him play a few times. He retired just before I got into the team.

So you were influenced by those great Real Madrid sides of the early 1960s.

Yes, I used to watch them from the back of the stands when I was 14 or 15. Even when they were kicking about before the game I watched them do things with the ball I had never seen players do before. Gento knocking the ball 20 yards and making it spin back to him. It was like a circus act. I couldn't believe people could do this, only because I had never seen it before from English players.

What was so special about Law and Charlton?

Denis' greatest qualities were his speed and sharpness. And he was brave. He dived into places that he shouldn't have. He was slight, but he could take care of himself. He played in Italy and could handle himself. A lot of people tried to kick him but I never saw him not come out on top. You used to see a few bodies around the pitch at the end of the game. (Laughs).

And Charlton?

Bobby, well he was best summed up by an English reporter who said he was not a great goal scorer but a scorer of great goals. He could turn a game in a flash. He was graceful on the ball and could beat players as easily as anyone I have seen. He sort of walked past them without even having to send them the wrong way. He would simply glide past them. He scored some great goals.

What of Cruyff and Beckenbauer? How did they impress you?

Their great qualities are the things that most great athletes have. They seem to have more time than anybody else. I used to hear people say Beckenbauer was lazy and he never worked and simply strolled. The only reason he strolled was because he could do that and because he was a great player. And he makes it look easy. That's the sign of greatness. The great players can do the simple things.

But how valid is the argument that Beckenbauer had that time because he was rarely marked?

They tried to. You can't really mark great players. I don't care who you are. Even if you stick a man on him, the great player will always shake you off. I used to hear coaches instruct players to close down Beckenbauer and stop him from getting the ball from the goalkeeper. But they still couldn't do it.

They tried that against you, didn't they?

Yes, but I tried to make it work out to our own advantage. If they stuck a man on me, I would go and mark one of their players. So all of a sudden they had two players following me. So it left it open for somebody else to roam free. In the old days that would leave Law or Charlton open and I don't have to tell that is like signing your own death warrant.

Who do you rate as the best player in the world now?

Well, I think Maredona is the best around at the moment. He's had injury problems but a friend tells me he was absolutely brilliant in the last month of the Spanish season.

Any other truly outstanding players?

Platini, Rummenigge possibly. I think Breitner is a great player. But, if you have to think about it like I just have that's a sad reflection on the game.

That European Cup tie in Lisbon after which the Portuguese dubbed you El Beate, would that have been one of the most memorable games of your career?

Well, to go there and beat Benfica 3-1 was a miracle really. But the semi-final of the Cup two years later when we went to Real Madrid and drew 3-3 after trailing 3-1 in the match was also a great performance.

What are your memories of that Benfica match?

The biggest memory is that at the end of the day it was so easy.



George Best, guesting for West Adelaide Hellas, shoots past Joe Mullen of Adelaide Juventus. Picture by FRANK HOBBS

We were great that night. We were only a goal up from the first leg (3-2) and then I scored twice in the first 12 minutes. The game was over at half time and we all wanted to get the champagne out. We were laughing and joking. But having said that, the previous year we went to Sporting Lisbon with a 4-1 lead and then lost 5-0. So we knew it could happen. We came out in the second half and scored an own goal straight away. There was a bit of panic but then we scored after that.

Was that Manchester United's greatest performance?

We played as close to the Real Madrid sides that I had watched as I have ever seen a club play. And for me that was the ultimate.

How did you feel in the last two minutes of the European Cup final in 1968 at Wembley against Benfica when Eusebio swept towards an open goal with the score at 1-1?

To be quite honest I was hoping he would blast it and that's exactly what he did. If he had placed it we would have lost the final. But he tried to break the back of the net. It wasn't such a great save because Alex (Alex Stepney) didn't have to move that far. He caught it on the side.

If he (Eusebio) had scored, it would have been all over because we hadn't played well. The build-up to the final was great. You couldn't have written a better script. And it could have been spoilt by one shot. But in extra time — it was a different game really.

What do you recall of your goal, which really turned the match towards United?

It was flicked on by someone. The last defender tried to kick me. If he had gone for the ball he might have stopped me. I slipped it between his legs as he came in and the keeper came out and I just went around him to make it 2-1. The thing is, I had scored better goals but when it went in it was such an important goal. Everybody relaxed. After that it was a stroll, really.

I recall a goal you once scored for Northern Ireland by forcing a rebound off a corner flag. Was that planned or pure instinct?

Which one was that?

Manager Bill McCulloch: That was the time Derek Douglas said: "You're a bloody genius" and you replied "I know".

BEST: Oh, no. Things like that just happen. You can't plan that. I wish I could (laugh).

MCULLOCH: His greatest goal undoubtedly was the one he scored for San Jose which won the goal of the season in America in 1981.

TOUSIDIS: Tell me about it.

BEST: I couldn't tell you. It's just one of those things that happens.

MCULLOCH: He beat seven men in the penalty box and five of them were international players. And it was like a motorway accident — all the bodies lying all over the place. He beat a couple of them a couple of times. It was if the ball was stuck to his foot and he was weaving through and sending them the wrong way and falling over. I have it on video tape if you don't believe me. It was simply incredible.

Is it true that George Best was such a great player because even he didn't know what he was going to next?

Well, you can't plan in a game. It is no good saying this is how I am going to play today. Even as a ball is coming to you situations change. So even if you have something planned, by the time the ball reaches you, situations may have changed and so you have to change your thinking too. So it is pure instinct and reaction, really.

Do you ever watch film clips of yourself and have difficulty in relating to the guy on the screen?

If I watch clips it's not like watching myself. It's like watching another player. I find it hard to relate. People ask me how I do things, and I don't know. You do them instinctively and off the cuff. So to sit and look at it, well I don't remember things it was so natural to me.

Your temper has got you into trouble. Is it a part of the game you regret?

I was sent off five times in my career and I don't regret it. If someone is trying to hurt me then I figure I'm entitled to hurt them. You shouldn't because you are hurting yourself and the team. But if someone has kicked you five or six times, you don't think. Oh, well, we'll talk about it later.

'Juve' in trouble

The official match programme of Adelaide City Juventus contained the following article, by Vic Mignaccio, which expresses the plight of many NSL clubs:

"All the South Australian Italian Community have heard of the Adelaide Juventus Soccer Club and most of the adult population have at one time or another been entertained over the years by either watching the team perform on the field or by way of attending cabarets etc.

"Do you remember years ago when we didn't have a clubhouse of our own and used to roll up at a Centennial Hall for dinner dances after a home match at Hanson Reserve? I can recall those times just as if it were yesterday. As a boy, I migrated from Italy during the 50's and didn't know much of the Australian language. In fact, I would pray for the weekends to come just so I could at least see our great soccer club play and have the opportunity of going along to a dance held by the club. It was common to see 4,000 fans at the matches and 1000 or so at the dances.

"The majority of the migrant Italian people resident in Adelaide during the 50's and 60's needed a club badly, mainly due to the language barrier but also because it was a means of escape from the hustle and

bustle of the daily work environment. It was also the place where you met friends. There were no other Italian Clubs in Adelaide. It is my considered opinion that most of us owe the club something for early days.

"What has happened? At present we have one of the best licensed premises in South Australia. We participate in National League matches with moderate success and have been one of the top clubs locally for 30 or more years, yet draw a measly 1,500 or so to our matches and are lucky if 200 turn up for our cabarets at our licensed premises. What do we need to spur us on? Unless something is done in the near future such as greater attendances at matches and a lot more participation in club functions by our supporters, then the future of the Juventus Soccer Club will be in doubt and surely doomed.

"It saddens me to write this but I cannot escape the truth, so have a good think about what has been written, and what the club has done for you along the way, because success or failure of Juventus is in your hands.

"In closing, I'd like to think that no person of Italian origin would like to see the Juventus Club go down. Any suggestions of help to the cause?"

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Dennis Boland.

AT GOOD SPORTS STORES EVERYWHERE

PHIL O'CONNOR

OUR MOST EXCITING STAR

Phil O'Connor, the rapier-sharp striker of Wollongong, has been voted the most exciting player in Australia in a poll among 12 "Soccer Action" experts.

O'Connor won with 69 votes, beating runner-up Alan Davidson (South Melbourne Hellas) by 13 votes, and third-placed Peter Katholos (Sydney Olympic) by 17 votes.

Fourth was Melbourne Croatia's little striker Tommy Cumming, who is showing week by week he is ready to return to the national team after a long lay-off due to injury.

Sydney Olympic received most votes in the poll, earning it the distinction of being the most exciting team in Australia, just ahead of South Melbourne Hellas.

Those who cast their votes were asked to judge not whom they thought were the best or most consistent players, but rather those they considered to be the most exciting.

And so the votes were cast for players with exceptional ball skill, with superior imagination and flair. In some cases, the judges preferred a combination between flair, physical strength and hard running — but in all cases, they came up with players who have the ability to entertain the crowds.

Phil O'Connor therefore, is the man of the moment.

Despite the fact that Wollongong has been on the bottom of the ladder for most of the season, he has been polling votes consistently in our Boral Bricks Player of the Year award, and up to last weekend, he had scored seven goals — only two less than the joint top scorers in the NSL.

O'Connor's record in Australian soccer is nothing short of sensational.

Formerly with Luton Town of England, he is the all-time top scorer of two NSL clubs — St. George Budapest (26 goals) and Wollongong (24 goals). He also scored 17 goals for APIA-Leichhardt and has notched four in 22 games for Australia.

Although getting on to the wrong side of 30, O'Connor has lost little of his speed and certainly none of his skill. He still shields the ball better than any other striker, and is the most difficult forward for an NSL defender to mark.

Here's how the votes added up:



69. Phil O'CONNOR
(Wollongong)
ex-APIA, St. George



56. Alan DAVIDSON
(SM-Hellas)
ex-Altona City



52. Peter KATHOLOS
(Syd. Olympic)
ex-St. George, Canterbury
Marrickville



37. Tommy CUMMING
(Melb. Croatia)
ex-Sunshine City



36. Oscar CRINO
(SM-Hellas)
ex-Juventus (Vic), A.I.S.
Footscray JUST



32. Joe WATSON
(Syd. C. Hakoah)



30. Marshall SOPER
(Syd. Olympic)
ex-APIA



29. Jim PATIKAS
(Syd. Olympic)
ex-Sydney C. Hakoah



28. Zarko ODZAKOV
(Prest. Makedonia)
ex-Vardar Skopje (Yug.)



28. David LOWE
(Newcastle KB Utd)

17. Rene Licata (Marc).
18. Tommy Sermanni (Marc).
14. Joe Carroll (Footscray JUST), Viatko Belic (Footscray JUST).
12. Graham Heys (WA-Hellas), George Campbell (Prest. Makedonia).
11. Claude Lucchesi (Prest. Makedonia), John Bradley (APIA-Leichhardt), Peter Raskopoulos (Syd. Olympic).
10. Joe Senkalski (Newc. KB Utd), Dez Marton (St. George Budapest), Dennis Boland (Footscray JUST).
9. Russell Stewart (Brisb. Lions), Paul Lewis (GG-Ajax).
8. Sergio Melita (Adel. C. Juve).
7. Doug Brown (SM-Hellas), Rod Brown (Marc), Ian McKie (H'berg).
6. Tommy McCulloch (Marc), Steve Bryant (C'berra).

5. Jim Campbell (H'berg), David Mitchell (Syd. C. Hak), Ken Boden (Syd. C. Hak), Stefan Mila (Poland, Vic), Tony Brennan (C'berra), Jamie Paton (Footscray JUST).

4. Charlie Villani (Adel. C. Juve), Duncan Cole (C'berra), Angelo Falco (Brisb. C), Gary Meier (Syd. Olympic).
3. Ken Murphy (SM-Hellas), Mike O'Hara (Mornington, Vic), Mark Jankovics (Marc).

2. Martyn Crook (WA-Hellas), David Sken (St. George Budapest), Terry Greedy (St. George Budapest).
1. Charlie Yankos (H'berg), Steve Peterson (Syd. Olympic), Graham Jennings (Syd. Olympic).

Number of votes polled by each club:
128. Sydney Olympic
102. South Melbourne Hellas

69. Wollongong
51. Preston Makedonia
49. Marconi-Fairfield
43. Footscray J.U.S.T.
42. Sydney City Hakoah
38. Newcastle KB United
37. Melbourne Croatia
15. Canberra Arrows
14. St. George Budapest
13. West Adelaide Hellas
13. Heidelberg Alexander
12. Adelaide City Juventus
11. APIA-Leichhardt
9. Green Gully Ajax
9. Brisbane Lions
5. Polonia (Vic)
4. Brisbane City
3. Mornington (Vic)

Here's how the 12 'Soccer Action' experts voted (top pick gets 10 votes):

MENO TOUTSIDIS

10. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
9. Jim Patikas (Syd. Olympic)
8. Marshall Soper (Syd. Olympic)
7. Oscar Crino (SM-Hellas)
6. Graham Heys (West Adel. Hellas)
5. David Mitchell (Syd. C. Hakoah)
4. Peter Katholos (Syd. Olympic)
3. David Lowe (Newcastle KB Utd)
2. Martyn Crook (West Adel. Hellas)
1. Charlie Villani (Adel. C. Juventus)

JOE LANZONI

10. David Lowe (Newcastle KB Utd)
9. Joe Senkalski (Newcastle KB Utd)
8. Viatko Belic (Footscray JUST)
7. Rod Brown (Marconi)
6. Tommy McCulloch (Marconi)
5. Zarko Odzakov (Prest. Makedonia)
4. Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas)
3. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
2. John Bradley (APIA-Leichhardt)
1. Steve Peterson (Syd. Olympic)

PETER DESIRA

10. Zarko Odzakov (Prest. Makedonia)
9. Peter Katholos (Syd. Olympic)
8. Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas)
7. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
6. Tommy Cumming (Melb Croatia)
5. Paul Lewis (GG-Ajax)
4. Viatko Belic (Footscray JUST)
3. David Lowe (Newcastle KB Utd)
2. Terry Greedy (St. George Budapest)
1. George Campbell (Prest. Makedonia)

LAURIE SCHWAB

10. Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas)
9. Oscar Crino (SM-Hellas)
8. Peter Katholos (Syd. Olympic)
7. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
6. Claude Lucchesi (Prest. Makedonia)
5. Marshall Soper (Syd. Olympic)
4. Tommy Cumming (Melb Croatia)
3. Zarko Odzakov (Prest. Makedonia)
2. Viatko Belic (Footscray JUST)
1. Charlie Yankos (H'berg Alexander)

RICKY ROSSO

10. George Campbell (Prest. Makedonia)
9. Russell Stewart (Brisbane Lions)
8. Oscar Crino (SM-Hellas)
7. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
6. Dez Marton (St. George Budapest)
5. John Bradley (APIA-Leichhardt)
4. Angelo Falco (Brisb. City)
3. Ken Murphy (SM-Hellas)
2. Jim Patikas (Syd. Olympic)
1. Joe Senkalski (Newcastle KB Utd)

PETER WINDSOR

10. Rene Licata (Marconi)
9. Marshall Soper (Syd. Olympic)
8. Jim Patikas (Syd. Olympic)
7. David Lowe (Newcastle KB Utd)
6. Steve Bryant (Canberra Arrows)
5. Jamie Paton (Footscray JUST)
4. Duncan Cole (Canberra Arrows)
3. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
2. Peter Raskopoulos (Syd. Olympic)
1. Joe Carroll (Footscray JUST)

TIM WHITE

10. Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas)
9. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
8. Jim Patikas (Syd. C. Hakoah)
7. Tommy Cumming (Melb. Croatia)
6. Peter Katholos (Syd. Olympic)
5. Jim Campbell (Heidelberg Alexander)
4. Paul Lewis (GG-Ajax)
3. David Lowe (Newc. KB Utd)
2. Zarko Odzakov (Prest. Makedonia)
1. George Campbell (Prest. Makedonia)

LES SHORROCK

10. Tommy Cumming (Melb. Croatia)
9. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
8. Joe Watson (Syd. C. Hakoah)
7. Ian McKie (H'berg Alexander)
6. Graham Heys (West Adel. Hellas)
5. Joe Carroll (Footscray JUST)
4. John Bradley (APIA-Leichhardt)
3. Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas)
2. Claude Lucchesi (Prest. Makedonia)
1. Zarko Odzakov (Prest. Makedonia)

ALEX VESIC

10. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
9. Peter Katholos (Syd. Olympic)
8. Sergio Melita (Adel. C. Juventus)
7. Tommy Sermanni (Marconi)
6. Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas)
5. Tony Brennan (Canberra Arrows)
4. Dez Marton (St. George Budapest)
3. Claude Lucchesi (Prest. Makedonia)
2. David Lowe (Newcastle KB Utd)
1. Graham Jennings (Syd. Olympic)

PETER SCOTT

10. Joe Watson (Syd. City Hakoah)
9. Dennis Boland (Footscray JUST)
8. Marshall Soper (Syd. Olympic)
7. Rene Licata (Marconi)
6. Oscar Crino (SM-Hellas)
5. Zarko Odzakov (Prest. Makedonia)
4. Gary Meier (Syd. Olympic)
3. Mark Jankovics (Marconi)
2. Jim Patikas (Syd. Olympic)
1. Doug Brown (SM-Hellas)

CRAIG MACKENZIE

10. Tommy Cumming (Melb. Croatia)
9. Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas)
8. Peter Katholos (Syd. Olympic)
7. Joe Carroll (Footscray JUST)
6. Doug Brown (SM-Hellas)
5. Stefan Mla (Polonia, Vic)
4. Joe Watson (Syd. City Hakoah)
3. Mike O'Hara (Mornington, Vic)
2. David Sken (St. G. Budapest)
1. Dennis Boland (Footscray JUST)

ANDREW DETTRE

10. Joe Watson (Syd. City Hakoah)
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6. Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas)
5. Ken Boden (Syd. City Hakoah)
4. Phil O'Connor (Wollongong)
3. Charlie Villani (Adel. C. Juventus)
2. Zarko Odzakov (Prest. Makedonia)
1. Peter Raskopoulos (Syd. Olympic)

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KAT'S CORNER

with PETER KATHOLOS

Koussas wasted, Watson sulks

My Sydney Olympic club-mate Mark Koussas asked for a transfer last week, having had quite a few problems this year, and having made only a handful of appearances in the first team.

Mark was top scorer in the 1981 World Youth Championships, but has spent most of the time in the reserves this season.

Our coach, Tommy Docherty, agreed to release Mark on loan, but the committee on the other hand, decided to hold on to him.

I believe St. George and APIA are very keen to use Mark, so why not release him on loan till the end of the year?

He's only wasted in the reserves, and he may be able to recapture his old form during a loan stint with another NSL club. I know how much he wants to play first grade soccer again.

Olympic to move?

There's been a move at Sydney Olympic to switch our remaining games to St. George Stadium.

I feel this would be a wise move, as the surface on Pratten Park is absolutely terrible.

I don't know whether the St. George club would agree, but negotiations have been going on, and as Olympic has lost only one game at St. George Stadium in the past two seasons, a move may help our results.

Wage freeze not fair

Clubs have been talking about the possibility of freezing players' wages and putting a ceiling on signing-on fees.

But I don't see the sense in it. Surely players of exceptional ability should have the chance of earning exceptional money.

It's different of course, for the players who don't deserve such money.

After all, it's not compulsory for the clubs to meet some of the astronomical demands made by players whose performances don't justify their pay claims.

Clubs should scale the players' payments according to what the players are worth to the team. That is different to having a maximum wage, which would be extremely difficult to police, as some clubs are better off financially than others and more willing to provide some "under the counter" incentives.

Sure, many clubs are at the moment financially over-committed. For that they have only themselves to blame.

They should pay what they can afford. And they shouldn't waste money on players not even playing in first grade, yet still getting first grade money.

Calm down, Joe Watson

Joe Watson of Sydney City apparently is bitterly disappointed that I didn't shake his hand after their recent game against Olympic.

Well, mate, I didn't think you took it so seriously.

I'm sure you've been in a situation when you've been bitterly upset about a result and, in the heat of the moment, you didn't feel like shaking hands.

Joe also claims that neither I nor Olympic will win any medals this year.

Well, remember Joe, that you're at the end of your career and I'm just starting mine, so I've got plenty of time to win some.

P.S. Joe, if you think Olympic is not going to win any medals why were you so keen to join us at the start of the season?



Mark Koussas

THE ANDREW DETTRE COLUMN

Whaddisay?

Even ASIO spies have problems with the English language.

A recently published transcript of a taped Combe phone conversation quoted the fallen Canberra lobbyist as saying:

"Even old stinks smoke."

Since neither ASIO nor the FBI, KGB, the Deuxieme Bureau or Al Fatah could put some meaning to this, all types of interpretations have been suggested.

The most plausible is this (with the sound synonyms in brackets): "Ivanov (even old) sent (stinks) home (smoke)."

Now we have our own problems in soccer.

At the recent Olympic v Marconi match, referee Peter Rampley dismissed from the bench Marconi coach Doug Collins for "abusive language."

Of course, readers familiar with developments in etymology (and who isn't?) can also trace, step by step, how simple English sentences can twist and change in common usage.

It's also a well known fact that even the best eye (or ear) witnesses can seldom give an accurate account of what they saw or heard.

As quotes are passed from hand to hand, words — and meanings — undergo some metaphysical transformation.

Thus it's possible — not sure, but just possible — that both Collins and Rampley are right. If so, this is how the Collins version became the Rampley version, bit by bit:

- Will you give us a fair go?
- You give us a fair go?
- You're an unfair gofer.
- You're a fair king kosh.
- You're a fair king shower.
- You're a fair king showman.
- You're a f..... showman.

Of course, we could be wrong.

Nicholas

Charlie Nicholas got a severe rap from Scotland manager Jock Stein at the end of its successful three internationals against Canada. Stein told Nicholas: "Your performance was a disappointment. You've got to sort yourself out."

Miljanic

Former Yugoslav national coach Miljan Miljanic has struck oil. Recently appointed coach of Kadzija in Kuwait, his monthly salary is reputed to be \$36,000... tax free.

Argentina

Presently new Argentinean boss Carlos Bilardo is only using one of Cesar Menotti's players in his national side — veteran keeper Ubaldo Fillol. But skipper Daniel Passarella and Diego Maradona will be called up by Bilardo for important internationals.

Chesterfield

Fourth Division Chesterfield, 117 years old with debts of nearly \$1 million has been taken over by Transworld Publications of which Mike Watterson, the Derby County chairman and millionaire snooker promoter, is a co-director. Chesterfield's new manager is John Duncan, the former Dundee and Spurs striker.

Blacktown 2 Croatia 3

Scorers: 24 Holloway, 43, 71 Walker, 54 Stuart, 81 Pointer. o.g. BLACKTOWN: Moore, Wheatley, Rasmussen, Pointer, Brogan, Sel, Savage, Davies, Stoddard, Walker, McLaughlin, Pearson (60 Larkill). CROATIA: Watson, A. Kovacic, Woods, Tomasek, Basic, Storry, Rezo, Savor, Arnold (Silva 60), M. Kovacic, Holloway (Vidick 62).

Manly 3 Polonia 1

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Kuringai 0 Canterbury 3

Scorers: Theodorakopoulos 61, 85, 89.

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Alan Davidson (SM-Hellas), Zarko Odzakov (Makedonia) and David Lowe (Newcastle) were the biggest winners in the weekend voting for the Boral Bricks \$1500 best player award.

All three were voted best on the ground, while Charlie Yankos (Heidelberg), leader in the voting, did not boost his tally at all.

Davidson now is in equal third position, six points behind Yankos and one point behind second-place Phil O'Connor (Wollongong).

Odzakov and Lowe are a further eight points behind, in equal eighth place.

John Bradley took the lead in the \$1000 Boral Bricks top scorer's award, boosting his tally to 10 goals by scoring in APJA's 1-2 loss to Makedonia. He is one goal clear of Mar-

shall Soper (Olympic), Claude Lucchesi and Gary Ward (both Makedonia).

Lucchesi did not play last weekend.

This week's votes:

PRESTON-MAKEDONIA 2 (McMillan, Ward) **APIA-LEICHHARDT 1** (Bradley) at Connor Reserve. Crowd about 5000. Votes by Laurie Schwab: 6. Odzakov (Mak), 5. Ward (Mak), 4. Bertogna (APIA), 3. Brown (APIA), 2. McMillan (Mak), 1. Carter (APIA).

BRISBANE LIONS 3 (R. Stewart, McKinnon, Daunt) **HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER 1** (Cole pen.) at Richards. Crowd about 300. Votes by Ricky Rosso:

6. Niven (BL), 5. R. Stewart (BL), 4. J. Stewart (BL), 3. Tansey (H), 2. Wright (BL), 1. Lea (H).

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 3 (Brown, Yzen-dorn, Holford) **BRISBANE CITY 1** (Hamilton) at Middle Park. Crowd about 2500. Votes by Peter Desira:

6. Davidson (SM), 5. Holford (SM), 4. Hamilton (BC), 3.

Brown (SM), 2. Tokesi (BC), 1. Blair (SM).

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 3 (Sounes 2 incl. pen., Gomez) **WOLLONGONG 1** (Cotton) at Sydney Athletic Field. Crowd about 1000. Votes by Peter Scott:

6. Sounes (SC), 5. Gomez (SC), 4. Barnes (SC), 3. Murray (SC), 2. Clarke (SC), 1. Watson (SC).

CANBERRA ARROWS 3 (Farina 2, Redmond) **5. GEORGE BUDAPEST 3** (Barton, Marton, Petkovski) at Bruce Stadium. Crowd about 1200. Votes by Peter Windsor:

6. Farina (C), 5. Gibson (C), 4. Slater (St.G), 3. Greedy (St.G), 2. Brennan (C), 1. T. Byrne (C).

SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Soper) **ADELAIDE CITY JU-VENTUS 0** at Pratten Park. Crowd 3812. Votes by Roger Sherack:

6. Carter (AC), 5. Meier (SO), 4. Herbert (SO), 3. Villani (AC), 2. Koussas (SO), 1. Soper (SO).

MARCONI-FAIRFIELD 0 **FOOTSCRAY JUST 1** (Carroll) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd 2011. Votes by Alex Vesic:

6. Boland (JUST), 5. Kyriakoulas (JUST), 4. Carroll (JUST), 3. Calderan (Marc), 2. Budini (Marc), 1. Sermanni (Marc).

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS 1 (Heys) **NEW-CASTLE KB UTD 4** (Lowe 2, Burke, Caban) at Hindmarsh. Crowd 1100. Votes by Meno Toutsidis:

6. Lowe (N), 5. Doorne (W), 4. Heys (W), 3. Mountford (N), 2. Dunn (W), 1. Burke (N).

Leaders: 53. Yankos (H), 48. O'Connor (W).

47. Davidso (SM), Banfield (AC), 46. Greedy (St.G), 43. Ratcliffe (St.G), 40. Burke (N), 39. Odzakov (Mak), Lowe (N), 38. Bryant (C), Bradley (A-PIA), 36. Hoszowski (C), 35. Sermanni (M), Carroll (JUST), Tokesi (BC), 33. Heys (WA), Jones (Mak), Kyriakoulas (JUST), 32. Boland (JUST), B. Nys-kohus (AC), 30. J. Watson (SC), G. Campbell (Mak), Hamilton (BC), 29. McMillan (Mak), Belic (JUST), 28. Katholos (SO), Lucchesi (Mak), Bertogna (APIA), 27. Sken (St.G), R. Stewart, Wright (BL), 26. Gibson (C), 25. T. Byrne (C), Henderson (M), Blair (SM), S. O'Connor (SC), 24. Spanos (H), Vlietstra (W), Scharmann (APIA), 23. McCulloch (M), Crino (SM), Soper (SO), Honeyman (WA), McKie (H), Mariani (A-PIA), 22. Murphy, Holford (SM), Gomez (SC), Niven (BL), Gray, P. Treddinnick (APIA), 21. Jankovics (M), Paterson (SO), 20. Farina (C), Jennings (SO), Melia, Villani (AC), Top scorers: 10. Bradley (APIA), 9. Soper (SO), Lucchesi, Ward (Mak), 8. Egan (SM), Kosmina (SC), 7. O'Connor (W), 6. Bryant (C), R. Brown (M), Gomez (SC), Cotton (W),

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Lowe, Mountford (N), Ham-ilton (BC), 5. Jankovics (M), D. Brown (SM), Katholos (SO), Slater (St.G), Lea (H), Mullen (AC).

Sandy available
An experienced midfielder who is accompanying his wife to Sydney (Paramatta), next Janu-ary, where she will work on a teacher-exchange basis for a year, would be interested to hear from any club interested in his services. Player is Adam Sandy, 25, who has made over 100 first team ap-pearances for Northampton Town in the past three and a half years. Address is: 17 Denbigh Road, Langlands, Northampton. Phone: Northampton 28873.

Vanenburgh
Ajax starlet Gerry Van-enburg, 19, has tied himself to the club for the next three years despite overtures by both Milan sides and several others. Spurs manager Keith Burkinshaw is another admirer of Vanenburg who has already played for Holland.

Weekend NSL matches with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY

NEWCASTLE KB UNITED v South Melbourne Hellas at Adamstown Oval, 2.30 pm.

Record: Newc. 4 wins, 4 draws, 3 losses, 16.13 goals.

ST GEORGE BUDAPEST v Brisbane Lions at Lakes Oval, Lismore, 7.30 pm.

Record: St. Geo. 3 wins, 7 draws, 1 loss, 14.10 goals.

SUNDAY

HEIDELBERG-ALEXANDER v Marconi-Fairfield at Olympic Village, 3 pm.

Record: Marco. 5 wins, 4 draws, 4 losses, 27.20 goals.

Wollongong v **CANBERRA ARROWS** at Ziems Park, Corral, 3 pm.

Record: Can. 3 wins, 0 draw, 2 losses, 6.5 goals.

Brisbane City v **SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH** at Spencer Park, 3 pm.

Record: Syd. C. 6 wins, 3 draws, 4 losses, 20.13 goals.

APIA-LEICHHARDT v West Adelaide Hellas at Lam-bert Park, 3 pm.

Records: 4 wins, 1 draw, 4 losses, 14.13 goals.

Adelaide City Juventus v Preston Makedonia (draw) at Olympic Sports Field, 3 pm.

Record: Mac. 3 wins, 1 draw, 1 loss, 7.3 goals.

FOOTSCRAY J.U.S.T. v Sydney Olympic at Schintler Reserve, 3 pm.

Record: Syd. Olymp. 4 wins, 5 draws, 2 losses, 12.7 goals.

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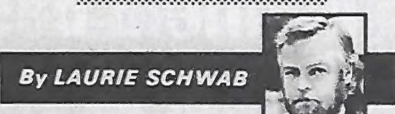
BORAL BRICKS

We can help you build it.



Igor Hazabent - George McMillan - back

Lucchesi, Kosmina back, Carroll, Marton out



By LAURIE SCHWAB

Heidelberg president Sam Gouloupoulos is fuming. "We must be the greatest saviours of all time," he says as his team prepares to meet Marconi at the Olympic Village on Sunday.

"First we let South Melbourne off the hook by conceding three goals to them when they were at the end of their rope, and now we help out Brisbane Lions too," he says, referring to Lions' 3-1 victory over Heidelberg last Sunday.

"Lions had hit rock bottom, but kindly Heidelberg decided to help them out."

"I don't know what's going on in the team. The players must start taking responsibility and pulling up their socks. I hope they do it this week."

"We conceded only two goals in six games, and then we go and concede nine in the next four games. We've got Gary Cole back up front and Derek Lea is working himself into the ground, so I hope the other players follow their example — particularly Charlie Yankos, Mike Valenti-na, Theo Selemdis and Jim Campbell who all can do a lot better."

Marconi had Tony Henderson on the bench last week, but he may be in the starting line-up this time.

Three captains, Arthur Anthopoulos, Igor Hazabent and John Kosmina meanwhile, have served their suspensions and are available for reinclusion in their teams.

If Xanthopoulos resumes the Hellas sweeper's position against Newcastle on Saturday, Alan Davidson will return to the midfield.

Hazabent will be back in the Footscray J.U.S.T. defence against Sydney Olympic at Schintler Reserve and Kosmina, along with Paul Kay who also missed a match through suspension, should both be back in Sydney Hakoah's match against Brisbane City.

Steve O'Connor, the Sydney Hakoah stopper, however, will miss the match due to suspension.

Dez Marton, the St George striker, also is suspended, after being sent off against Canberra. He will miss Saint's clash with Brisbane Lions in Lismore on Saturday.

Saints switched their game to Lismore to cash in on a new public, and because Lismore is the home town of Saint's Soccer goalkeeper Terry Greedy.

Phil Redmond may get a run in Canberra's attack against Wollongong because he scored after coming on as a substitute last weekend.

Newcastle may miss mid-fielder Brett Cowburn who is injured, and league leader Makedonia goes to Adelaide City's ground without captain George McMillan who is suspended.

Claude Lucchesi returns to the Makedonia team after a lay-off due to illness, but with McMillan missing, Makedonia needs another defender — either Peter Ollerton or Ljube Petrovski.

National League standings

Last week's standings in brackets:

Last week's standings in brackets:		HOME					AWAY					Gls	Pts
		W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A		
1.	(1) Preston Makedonia	8	2	0	22	7	2	4	2	11	9	22:16	36
2.	(2) Sydney City Hakoah	6	3	0	17	6	4	1	4	11	15	28:21	34
3.	(3) Newcastle KB Utd	5	3	2	13	6	5	0	3	18	10	31:16	33
4.	(7) Sydney Olympic	4	2	3	14	9	4	2	3	12	9	26:18	28
5.	(4) St. George Budapest	4	3	1	10	6	3	4	3	11	8	21:14	28
6.	(5) Brisbane City	4	3	2	16	14	3	3	3	8	15	24:29	27
7.	(6) APIA-Leichhardt	4	2	1	19	9	2	1	6	11	16	30:25	26
8.	(8) Marconi-Fairfield	4	2	3	15	15	2	3	4	13	13	27:28	23
9.	(13) South Melbourne Hellas	3	3	4	13	14	3	2	3	11	14	24:28	23
10.	(11) Canberra Arrows	5	3	1	21	10	1	1	7	9	18	30:22	22
11.	(9) Heidelberg-Alexander	5	1	2	13	6	0	6	4	7	16	20:28	22
12.	(10) West Adelaide Hellas	4	3	4	13	15	1	4	2	4	6	17:21	22
13.	(12) Adelaide City Juventus	3	2	4	10	11	3	1	6	12	14	22:25	21
14.	(14) Footscray J.U.S.T.	3	2	3	8	15	2	3	5	6	15	14:30	20
15.	(15) Brisbane Lions	5	0	4	17	14	0	2	7	7	25	24:39	17
16.	(16) Wollongong	0	6	2	10	12	1	3	6	14	23	23:36	13

Croatia, Juventus for NSL?

And the only available punishment is to outlaw the league and its clubs — meaning also a ban by FIFA. Such a ban would exclude the clubs and players from international competition but also would enable the NSL clubs to poach players without paying transfer fees.

Whether the States would take such drastic punitive measures is doubtful, but speculation about such a split obviously has caused the States to have second thoughts about their stance.

Now the NSL hopes to follow through and persuade either Victoria or NSW — preferably both — that the regionalised 24-team league is, after all, desirable.

NSW however, appears to be maintaining its opposition. Victoria, on the other hand, seems to have melted.

VSF president John Dimsits has pinpointed one area for possible compromise.

It involves the administrative structure of the 24-team league. He says the ad-

ministrative proposals in the NSL's report on the 24-team league, had been "misinterpreted" by the States before Saturday.

The proposal is that the league should have a new management committee which would include up to six representatives of State federations.

There would be separate committees to run the northern and southern regions, and the administrative work would be the responsibility of the State federation secretaries.

The proposal at the moment, contains a clause saying that the State federation secretaries would be "subject to the authority of the league central office."

Mr Dimsits says that if the clause were to read "ASF Office" instead of "league central office," it may appease the States sufficiently to break down their resistance.

However, in return for giving the States a share of NSL control, the NSL wants the States to give NSL clubs

From page one

voting rights on State federations and direct affiliation with the federations.

In NSW the NSL clubs do not even run federation teams. The question of voting rights over and above the rights afforded to the Victorian NSL clubs through their federation teams would have to be referred to the VSF annual meeting, so it cannot be answered until the end of the year, by which time the NSL will be ready to roll into its new, 24-team league.

A long-standing point of contention has been promotion and relegation. The States have wanted automatic promotion and relegation, but the NSL's version has been selective to say the least.

Now the NSL proposes that candidates for promotion to the NSL — providing they meet a list of 10 criteria — should play off, home and away, against the last and second-last teams in the NSL.

The States however, oppose the play-off proposal.

Instead of a 24-team NSL, the States have proposed a network of State-run super leagues, with national play-offs at the end of the season.

The NSL opposes that scheme. Victoria, NSW, SA and perhaps Queensland however, will push ahead with their own "super leagues" even if they do not include the present NSL clubs.

And in Victoria's case, there will be a drastic reorganisation of all leagues, down the line.

Various meetings are going on between NSL and State officials throughout the week, in preparation for Saturday's sub-committee talks.

But the NSL is adamant that the 24-team proposal will be implemented.

NSL chairman Sam Pappas says that the 16 NSL clubs agreed unanimously at the meeting in Sydney last Sunday, that the 24-team league

should go ahead, and that appropriate steps should be taken to make it a reality.

"Assuming that the talks on Saturday fail to reach a conclusion, we will ask for a meeting of the ASF executive to vote on our proposal," Mr Pappas said.

"We want to finalise the structure of next year's competition by the end of this month."

NSL vice-chairman Tony Labbozzetta said Saturday's meeting would go "a long way towards achieving an amicable and constructive solution."

He conceded that the State federations would encounter problems when some of their leading clubs enter the NSL, but added: "The clubs are the future of Australian soccer and the best of them see no progress in staying with State competitions."

"It is in the NSL that they will have the opportunity to exploit the market potential of the game."



John Dimsits



Tony Labbozzetta



Sam Pappas



Karl Rodney



Peter McCann



Sir Arthur George

WHAT A THRILLER!

Canberra 3 St George 3

Scorers, Can: Farina 2, Redmond; St G: Barton, Marton, Petkovski.

CANBERRA: Hoszowski 7, Murray 7, Young 7, Christopoulos 7, Bryant 8; Gibson 8, Cole 7, Terry Byrne 8, McLaren, (Radmond, 27th, 8), Farina 9, Brennan 8.

ST GEORGE BUDAPEST: Greedy 8; R. O'Shea 7, Ratcliffe 7, J. O'Shea 7, M. O'Shea 7; Barton 8, Stone 7, Petkovski 8; Marton 8 (sent off 82nd), Slater 8, Wilkinson 7.

Ref: Glynn Davies 6
Cautions: Bryant, Marton (sent off), Barton.
Crowd: 1,200.

In a thrill-a-minute encounter St George's usually impenetrable defence was shattered three times but still Canberra led to settle for a solitary point.

It was a game Canberra deserved to win.

Twice Canberra hit the woodwork, created perhaps three times the goalscoring chances of St George but still had to rely on equalising just four minutes from the end.

Certainly Terry Greedy was once again in superb touch but Canberra also wasted chances and saw Don McLaren carried from the field early, after a crash with Greedy that saw him hospitalised with broken ribs.

There was no stretcher available anywhere within the



Peter Windsor

huge Bruce Stadium multi-million complex and McLaren had to be carried off on a board.

Back to the game.

It was Canberra that was first to score after 15 minutes when a Steve Bryant corner curled in and when Terry Byrne challenged Greedy the ball dropped at the feet of livewire Frank Farina who

squeezed it into the net from only a metre.

But in the 28th minute no one cleared a Robbie Slater free-kick and Dez Marton's prodigious individual skills were once again evident as he hammered the loose ball into Canberra's net.

Canberra took the lead again when McLaren's replacement, Phil Redmond, scored in the 32nd minute.

Again Byrne had a hand — or more correctly a head — in a goal, for it was his header to Redmond's feet that made it possible.

But Canberra was stunned by a St George equaliser just four minutes after the turnaround.

It came from a disastrous Andrew Young mistake when

the youngster, under no real pressure, misjudged the ball and allowed it to bounce to unmarked Peter Petkovski who from close range took the chance well.

Again Canberra had by far the better of play yet it was St George, from a superb breakaway that edged into what looked like a match-winning 3-2 lead in the 74th minute.

A big clearance was sent into the middle where midfielder Mark Barton was completely unmarked and the youngster found the net.

Canberra looked sunk — but somehow found the courage to fight back tenaciously and a thunderous Tony Brennan shot saw Greedy, in a reflex save, push the ball onto the post.

The minutes ticked away — and only a mere four remained when Canberra forced a corner.

Ian Gibson took it brilliantly and the ball went straight to Farina whose rocket-like ground shot went through defenders like Moses parting the Red Sea and passed Greedy on its way into the net.

A great game, one Canberra should have won, one marred by poor refereeing, the injury to McLaren, the sending off of Marton just 10 minutes from the whistle for dissent (he had already been booked) and a pitifully small crowd of 1,200.

But those who came saw a match that could well prove the best value for money in the 1983 season.



Dez Marton — sent off



Alan Davidson (right) in a race for the ball against Brisbane City's John Kowtan (centre) at Middle Park on Sunday. At left is City defender Steve Perry. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

Midfield best for 'Davo'

SM-Hellas 3 Briss City 1

Scorers: 1-0 Brown 1m, 1-1 Hamilton 28m, 2-1 Yzendoorn 43m, 3-1 Halford 63m.

Ground: Middle Park.
Crowd: 2500 estimate.
Referee: Sam Zoumas 7.

Cautions: Wilkinson, Pimblett, Crino.

HELLAS: Laumets 7, Russell 7, Yzendoorn 8, Blair 8, Davidson 9 (capt); Murphy 7, Crino 7, Halford 8; Woodin 7, Brown 8, Egan 8. Coach: Len McKendry.

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart 6, Wilkinson 6, Kowtan 6, Tokesi 6, Perry 7, Hamilton 8, Pimblett 8 (capt), Williamson 6; Hughes 6, Bromfield 7, Glockner 6. Coach: Jim Herminson.

Alan Davidson will return



Peter Desira

to a midfield position this week despite starring once again in the position that many observers believe is his best left back.

The Soccerroo completely dominated the left side, tackling determinedly and contributing to many of Hellas's side's best performance since Len McKendry took over five weeks ago.

But the coach has stated that 'Davo' was moved to left back only to cover for the absence of Arthur Xanthopoulos.

"Alan is too good a player to play at full back. He played well in midfield in the three matches he has been used there and will continue to be extremely valuable as long as he maintains a disciplined approach to the game," McKendry said.

The coach was pleased with the result although Hellas created enough chances to have won by a clearer margin.

"We are missing many chances, but you can't expect a side to go from struggling one week to scoring eight or nine in the next — that's fairly tall stuff," he said.

McKendry's cautions approach also stops him from setting targets or making predictions about where he can see his side finishing following the renewed confidence that



South Melbourne Hellas striker Doug Brown shields the ball from Brisbane City defender Billy Wilkinson.

has become apparent in the team.

"This is not a game for prophets, it is a game for realists," was his only comment.

The team got off to a bright start, scoring within 90 seconds of the kick-off. Oscar Crino's perfectly weighted through ball fell nicely for Doug Brown and he lobbed over the keeper from the edge of the box.

Keeper Kim Wishart did not have the best of days and nearly came unstuck with his handling a couple of times.

Brisbane City equalised in the 29th minute. Steve Perry's cross was headed out by Bobby Russell but Bobby Hamilton ran onto the clearance to slam a volley past Peter Laumets from the left side of the area.

But Hellas regained its lead before half time from a corner kick taken by Brown.

Ken Murphy back-headed the ball at the near post and John Yzendoorn managed to head it home in a crowded penalty area.

Carl Halford sealed the issue midway through the second half, running onto Brown's through ball to beat Wishart despite the close attention of Billy Wilkinson.

Charlie Egan should have added to the score when he found himself clear from a Davidson pass, was waved aside as he made ground down the centre, but then had his final shot blocked by Wishart.

Bobby Hamilton had a busy game in midfield but Brisbane City created little in the way of scoring chances and cannot seriously be considered a threat for the championship on this disappointing performance.

Three goals in nine minutes for KB

West Adel. 1 Newcastle 4

Goals: Hays (West, 30 sec); Lowe 9th and 89th, Burke 90th, Cavan 93rd.

Crowd: 1100.
Weather: Bitterly cold and wet.

Ground: Hindmarsh Stadium.

Referee: Jim Rossie 8.

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS: Crook 5 — McGregor 7, Hiern 7, Dunn 8, Amey 7 — Doorne 8, Brennan 7, Atsakes 6 — Hays 8, Wormley 6, Honeyman 7.

NEWCASTLE: Gosling 7 — Maier 7, Burke 8, Watson 7, Tradnick 7 — Cowburn 11th, Boogard 6, Sankatski 6, Jones 7 — Lowe 8, Mountford 8, Cavan 6.

West Adelaide Hellas coach Alan Vest must still

be wondering how his former club took these three precious points.

Hellas was in complete command for almost 80 minutes when Newcastle, aided by two appalling defensive blunders, scored three times in nine minutes to inflict West Adelaide's worst defeat of the year.

It was an incredible climax and so cruel for West Adelaide, which played quite brilliantly until it self-destructed in those last 10 minutes.

It took only 30 seconds for the home side to score, with Graham Hays firing a magnificent angled ground shot past Clint Gosling.

David Lowe, surely a senior Soccerroo contender, equalised with the goal of the match in the ninth minute when he

scored with an overhead kick.

Despite that setback, West resumed its charge and Graham Honeyman was in everything.

And then Newcastle emerged from mediocrity to destroy West Adelaide.

Goalkeeper Martyn Crook missed a cross in the 80th minute and all Paul Burke had to do was roll the ball in from inches.

Just three minutes later Tony Cavan, with no defenders in sight, had the simple task of slotting the ball past Crook and right on full time the gifted Lowe smashed the ball into the roof of the net after another defensive mix-up.

Newcastle couldn't believe its luck.

Crook said it all when he

buried his head in his hands.

A three-goal win is a thrashing in anybody's language but it just wasn't like that at all.

The loss, incidentally, was West's first in seven matches.

With West Adelaide's State League team performing so magnificently, (it is in third spot and just two points off the lead), Vest will be under pressure to draft some of the outstanding youngsters into his NSL squad.

Injury in fact denied him two of the club's most outstanding youngsters — John Panagis and George Konstantopoulos who injured both knees while starting in West's shock 3-1 win over Beograd, then League leader, the day before.

Certainly, Vest will need to recast his attack which simply has not functioned this year.



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Collins defends Hellas committee

SIR — Re: 'Committee Hellas' problem: Docherty, Soccer Action Wed 27/7/83.

I refer to the above article and other similar "brave" boring and certainly not as tasteful and irresponsible comments and other gossip which recently have been flung at one of N.S.L.'s hardest-working committees, namely ours at South Melbourne Hellas.

These comments are very much typical of the character of those making them appear to be the topic for cheap conversation, mainly persons either trying to cover up their inferiority complex or gain sympathy from people who usually believe whatever they read and are unable to judge

It has long enough been "open season" for slander and gossip on Hellas and our committee by these jealous spiteful types who believe they can wash their dirty linen, by throwing dirt on other people's clean laundry!

History has proved and WILL CONTINUE TO PROVE that Hellas is one of the greatest and most loved soccer clubs in this country! And this could only have been achieved by having been served by one of the best, hard-working committees in the business!

As in the past, the present committee has NEVER been under the control of the players and has always given

support and shall always continue to do so in the future. The committee will always regard the club, its members and supporters above all others, — coaches, managers, individual committeemen included.

As for those who have left the club by the back door, they have contributed to their own demise and are responsible for their own fate. And to any more gossip headlines, we Souths wish to say they should reserve their energy to sort out their own personal problems and kindly leave South Melbourne Hellas and our hard-working committee alone.

N. Collins.

Morton's axe to drop!



Ricky Rosso

Brisb. Lions 3 Heidelberg 1

Scorers: R. Stewart 42nd, McKimming 60th, Daunt 82nd; Cole (H) penalty 70th.
Venue: Richards Stadium.
Cautions: BL - McKimming 23rd, Niven 37th. H - Spanos 37th, Lee 51st.
Crowd: About 300.
Referee: Gordon Nicholson

LIONS: Lownds 7, McKimming 7, Hunter 8, Vasquez 7, Niven 9, J. Stewart 8, R. Stewart 8, Hogg 8, Ogden 7, Wright 8 (McDonagh 74th), Daunt 8.

HEIDELBERG ALEXANDER: Olvar 7, McKie 6, Angelo 5, Yankos 6, Tansey 7, Spanos 7, Campbell 6, Valentino 5 (Peterson 62nd), Selenidis 5, Lee 7, Cole 6.

Heidelberg Alexander coach Ken Morton warned his player the axe was ready to fall after their dismal 3-1 loss to Lions.

Morton, speaking after the game to the media in the dressing room but quite loud enough for his player to hear, said: "It's up to the boys to put more heart into their game - that's if they want to stay at this club."

Morton blasted his players for "allowing their heads to drop" when Lions stood up to Heidelberg and handed back some of the toughest tackles the Melbourne side had used to try to upset the youngsters in the early stages.

When the Lions midfield began tackling with guts and determination and contested every loose ball as if it were the dying seconds of a drawn Cup final, Heidelberg went into hiding.

And Lions, spurred on by a new-found unity as a result of a frank mid-week team meeting at which they vowed to give coach Simon Kistemaker 100 percent support, were a new look team.

With Russell Stewart back in the midfield, and showing the form that won him an Australian jumper, his brother John next to him and playing equally as impressively and Steve Hogg finally back to his home-crunching best, Lions were always in control.

The Brisbane team, struggling to climb out of the NSL cellar and away from relegation, got its deserved breakthrough in the 42nd minute.

After playing the ball through the midfield, John Stewart chipped a delicate through ball for Russell to run onto and blast into the net.

The goal signalled a change of luck for the Lions and they came out of the break roaring.

Wright received the ball on the right about 40 yards out and proceeded to riddle the very players who had kicked him all day and dribbled his way past Tansey, Yankos and Angelo.

Then angled in a fine shot which Jeff Olver could only deflect to the feet of Bob McKimming who easily slot it into the open goal.

Lions looked set for a big victory but referee Nicholson almost enabled Heidelberg to get back into the game when he awarded a penalty in the 78th minute.

Admittedly it was a good move by Heidelberg and a great ball from Jim Campbell that put Spanos through the Lions defence but the midfielder seemed to lose control of the ball and looked to subsequently make the most of Lownds' challenge.

Gary Cole continued his goalscoring run by sending Lownds the wrong way with his kick. But apart from an inspired few minutes afterwards, Heidelberg never kicked on and in the end threw the match away.

Seven minutes from time Lions were given a gift goal by a defensive mistake.



If there was a best newcomer's award for the NSL, Footscray JUST's talented Joe Carroll would be one of the leading candidates.

A new JUST —skill and steel!

Marconi 0 Foots JUST 1

Scorer: Carroll 21st.
Ground: Marconi Stadium.
Crowd: 2011.
Referee: Doug Rennie 9
Yellow cards: Carroll (F), Jankovics (M).

MARCONI: James 7, Bozanic 7, Budini 7, Calderan 7, Rizzotto 6, McCulloch 7, Sermanni 7, Carbone 6, Brown 5, Jankovics 5 (Henderson 71), Licata 5.

FOOTSCRAY JUST: Boland 9, Curovic 7, McDowell 7, Kirikoulas 8, Tutill 7, Belic 7, Taylor 7, O'Donnell 7, Carroll 7, Paton 5, Lujic 7.

Marconi continues to struggle against Footscray JUST in the National League. Only once did Marconi manage to beat its southern visitor at Marconi Stadium, and that was way back in 1977.

Since then JUST has notched four wins.

From the opening bell, Marconi took control and looked set for a long and fruitful siege of JUST's goal. For some 15 minutes the visitors battled well, keeping Marconi at bay, then in the 17th minute came forward and almost struck gold when Paton headed wide from across by Vlatko Belic.

Some four minutes later Bruce James was not so lucky. On this occasion it was Joe Carroll who started the move just outside Marconi's penalty area before pushing it wide for Belic. A quick and accurate chip found Jamie Paton facing James, but his header rebounded off James and in the ensuing melee it was Carroll who found the net from close range.

Marconi would have scored

Alex Vesic

earlier but for some brilliant 'keeping by Boland. Sermanni just missed his mark after only four minutes, Boland saved from Brown and then from Jankovics before JUST went ahead. Boland was at his brilliant best again in the dying seconds of the first half to deny Jankovics, then pulled off a string of fine saves during the second period to spearhead his side to a narrow but fine victory.

For JUST it was Boland who stole the show with some help from his enthusiastic bunch of defenders. Marconi, however, had little to enthuse about. Mark Jankovics almost received a red card after bulldozing Boland into the turf — a typical reaction of a frustrated forward, while the rest showed little penetration.

Tom Sermanni, the captain and mastermind of many a raid, was kept fairly quiet, while Attilio Carbone was a lot of energy taking play wide when opportunity was at hand to go through the middle.

The return of Tony Henderson was a trifle late but the experienced forward showed some fine touches. His distribution worried JUST and had Henderson gone on a little earlier Marconi might have come away with a point.

Licata and Joe Rizzotto were far from satisfying, with Licata almost out of the match for the best part of the afternoon.

Lucky Olympic!

By ROGER SHERACK

Olympic 1 Adel City 0

Venue: Pratt Park.
SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier 8, Herbert 7, Dakos 6, Coady 5 (38 Kalatzis 5), Jennings 6, Rogers 6, Kothlos 5, Patikas 6, Koussas 6, Soper 7.

ADELAIDE CITY: McNally 6, Dods 7, Nyakohus 7, Banfield 6, Flounders 7, Mulla 6, Blair 6, Carter 8, Mullen 6, Villani 7, Rankin 6 (Maxwell 63).
Crowd: 3812.

Referee: Tim Davies 7.
Scorer: Soper.
Yellow cards: Dods.

Supporters could have been excused for thinking Sydney Olympic was at the bottom and Adelaide City Juventus aspiring to the top after Olympic's lucky 1-0 win.

Olympic's goal by Marshall Soper in the 72nd minute was a bitter blow for Adelaide, which was by far the better team.

Tommy Docherty's side moved from seventh to fourth place but is hardly a serious contender if this form is any guide.

"It was our worst performance in a year and a half," admitted Docherty. "But I give full credit to Adelaide City. We played only as well as we were allowed to."

Olympic, playing its typical attacking style at home, with two wingers and only two in the midfield, was made to look like a very ordinary team of individuals.

The first half belonged completely to the visitors who stretched Olympic's brittle midfield to create six clear scoring chances.

In the 22nd minute, Adelaide striker Les Carter hit the left post with a powerful shot from the edge of the box, one of several which taunted Olympic keeper Gary Meier.

Olympic's winner came from a 72nd minute free kick by Ricky Herbert which was nudged down by Mark Koussas for Soper to volley in from close range at the left post.

Gary Meier was outstanding, saving at least three certain goals and thwarting Adelaide's dangerous cross balls with great anticipation and positional play.

By contrast, Olympic's much-vaunted attacking ability looked feeble and disorganised, especially Koussas and Jim Patikas who floundered against the tight Adelaide defence.

Despite the lack-lustre performance, Docherty is still confident of challenging for the title: "We'll keep trying until it's mathematically impossible."

WcMillian mighty, as Makedonia celebrates

Laurie Schwab

Makedonia 2 APIA 1

Scorers: 0-1 Bradley 31st; 1-1 McMillan 49th; 1-2 Ward 70th.
Venue: Connor Reserve.
Crowd: about 5000.
Referee: Chris Bambridge 8.
Cautions: McMillan, Odzakov (Mak).

PRESTON-MAKEDONIA: Wilson 7 - McMillan 8, Jones 6, Todorovski 6, Opsinis 8 - Iliosi 6, Flavell 7, Odzakov 9, Ward 8, Ollerton 5 (Livingstone 7 half time), Campbell 7. Coach: Peter Ollerton.

APIA-LEIGHWARD: Parkes 7, Carter 8, Bertogona 5, Mariani 7, Brown 8 - Gray 7, Butler 8, Tradinich 8 - Bradley 7, Valeri 6 (Bottalico 82nd), Morsello 8. Coach: Fil Bottalico.

Preston Makedonia contributed to the linden celebrations of the Macedonian community by coming from behind to beat APIA 2-1 and retain top position on the NSL ladder.

The celebrations mark the 80th anniversary of the Ilinden Uprising against the Turkish Empire, which had ruled Macedonia for 500 years.

Now Macedonia, geographically, is partly in Yugoslavia, partly in Greece and partly in Bulgaria, but only in Yugoslavia does it have the status of a republic.

The United Young Macedonian dance group and K.U.D. Svetlost performed traditional folk dances before the kick-off of what was to prove the most entertaining match seen this year at Connor Reserve.

APIA on this performance and despite a very slippery pitch, was the best team we've seen in Melbourne, due to its total commitment, strength, speed and imagination. In fact, APIA dominated the first half, during which Makedonia slipped, slid and missed the ball in tackles.

It was a humble move by coach Peter Ollerton that paved the way to Makedonia's success. He was in the team to replace Claude Lucchesi who was out due to the flu, but after failing to make an impression, Ollerton replaced himself with Alex Livingstone, pushed George McMillan, into attack and shifted Zoran Iliosi to McMillan's full-back position.

The result was that McMillan equalised and helped set up the other goal for Gary Ward, and Livingstone was unlucky not to score at least once.

Zarko Odzakov also contributed to the victory with a brilliant midfield performance.

But APIA looked well in control after John Bradley had brought his season's tally to 10 goals in the 31st minute. Bradley was at hand on the goal line to put away an angled low shot from full back Paul Carter.

Earlier, goalkeeper Richard Wilson had saved a shot by Bradley, and the half ended with two more good chances, both missed by Walter Valeri.

Then Odzakov took control of the midfield and delighted the crowd with many runs, beating up to five opponents.

And only four minutes after half-time McMillan bobbed up at the far post to head the equalising goal from a cross by Gary Ward.

Livingstone also was dangerous, missing narrowly twice and having another shot saved by goalkeeper Parkes.

At the other end APIA was unlucky with a Tony Morsello header that hit the bottom of the post.

Syd. City 3 Wollongong 1

At Sydney Athletic Field.
Crowd: 1000.
Referee: Arthur Owens 5.
Scorers: Cotton (W) 4th min, Gomez (SC) 58th min, Souness (SC) 68th and 78th min (pen).

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH: Clarke 7, Carr 7, Robertson 7, S. O'Connor 8, Souness 9, Barnes 8, Gomez 8, de Marigny 5 (Dickson 78th min) (Rodrigues 75th min), Murray 8.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Preston 6, Willis 6, Vilestos 5, Alexworth 7, Pollard 5, Fleming 6, Gaffney 6, Kerr 5, McGreen 5 (Dickson 78th min) Cotton 6, P. O'Connor 6.

Four players out of the side through suspension, injury and an overseas trip, but Sydney City Hakoah still came through with flying colors to keep the pressure on NSL leader Makedonia, following a win which could easily have taken on devastating proportions.

And against Brisbane City next Sunday John Kosmina and Paul Kay will be back in action, something that ought to fill the north-easterners with a certain amount of trepidation.

Forced to replace those two, as well as Ian Bruce and the departed David Mitchell, got to mention the seemingly permanently injured Ken Boden, Hakoah coach Eddie Thomson plugged the holes successfully.

On Sunday Gomez will be pulled back into the centre of the defence in place of Steve O'Connor, due for a week's suspension after collecting a yellow card, with Kay taking up his accustomed spot in midfield.

As for Kosmina, all Thomson could say is that he will be back, but I tip that Nello Borges will move back to make room for the Seccore skipper, with Jean Paul de Marigny relegated to the reserves' bench.

Spare a thought for Willie Wallace, who will be up against a Can-



Peter Scott

Hakoah secret is depth

berra suddenly revitalised under Atti Abonyi, with very few options to change his team which performed so poorly.

Wollongong was completely outclassed for all but some five minutes of the match, but still led the larger part of proceedings.

"We took a bit of time to settle down in our new format early in the piece," Thomson said afterwards.

The visitors capitalised in the

fourth minute, when Willis swung a nice ball across for Cotton to neatly deflect into the net with his head.

It was 1-0 to Wollongong and stayed that way until the 58th minute. In between Hakoah completely overwhelmed the opposition, launching wave upon wave of attacks against a massed defence which relied on an efficient off-side trap, hefty boots and a good measure of luck to keep the Blues at bay.

The champions finally started to convert some of their many chances into goals.

And what a beauty it was when the first one finally came.

Dashing Gerry Gomez had two stabs at a ball from Nello Borges before putting it away in the 58th for the equaliser, and just 18 minutes later Joe Watson cunningly squared a free kick to Ian Souness for the latter to drive it home mercilessly from more than 25 metres.

With just 14 minutes left Willie Murray, also cutting a dashing figure on the left wing, was upped by a frustrated Ray Vilestos.

Souness made his tally two with an unstoppable shot from the penalty spot.

Barnes and Murray threatened to turn defeat into a hiding just before the final whistle, but a shellshocked Wollongong did finally get off with a two-goal deficit.

As Hakoah goalie Todd Clarke said after the final whistle, "My money is on our team for the title."

Benfica

Benfica won the Portuguese title for the 25th time — some consolation for their defeat by Anderlecht in the UEFA Cup final.

Popular rep

A string of clubs are chasing Johnny Rep who got a free transfer from St Etienne, Volendam, promoted to the First Division in Holland, leads the chase but has opposition from AZ67, F.C. Basle and Rep's old club Bastia.

Viollet

Dennis Viollet, a big star for Manchester United and England in the early 60's, is now coach of former NASL club Jacksonville Tea Men who now operate in the American Soccer League.

Firmani

Eddie Firmani, the former English and Italian League player who was sacked as coach on NASL side Montreal Manics last season, is now coaching Inter-Montreal in the new Canadian league.

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ALWAYS FIRST WITH THE BEST

From taping scars back to the top

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

John Yzendoorn is confident that South Melbourne Hellas will win this year's NSL Cup and finish in the top four. He sees this as a possible springboard back into the national team, for he's determined to reclaim the Soccerero spot he lost in 1981.

Let's recall an old ghost and hope that ASF officials don't over-react the way they did two years ago.

The so-called Yzendoorn taping scandal took place in Auckland. Yzendoorn allegedly smuggled a tape recorder into a Rudi Gutendorf team talk before the Soccerero drew 3-3 with the Kiwis in a World Cup qualifying match. The tape of Gutendorf's talk then made its way to the Sydney 'Sun'. A few weeks later NZ beat Australia 2-0 in Sydney to end all hopes of the Soccerero reaching the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain.

After this loss, Gutendorf was replaced as national coach by Les Scheinflug. Yzendoorn played a few days later in Australia's 2-0 defeat of Indonesia.

It was to be his last national team appearance to date. Yzendoorn was then banned from Australia's remaining five qualifying matches.

"I'd love to get back into the national team. That's got to be one of the main aims in any professional player's career," said Yzendoorn, who has made 18 appearances for Australia, 13 in full internationals.

"It's been difficult to get back into the national side though, not because of politics, but because I missed most of last season and came into the Hellas team as a regular only after about eight games this year."

"Les Scheinflug knows what I can do. He's seen me play here and abroad against top-class opposition. My attitude

always has been good, especially when playing representative soccer."

Yzendoorn was plagued for more than a year with what he initially thought was a groin strain. However, he discovered last year that he had a pelvic complaint and successful surgery was undertaken last November.

At 26, he feels he again can achieve club and international team status. Just two years ago he often was hailed as the best sweeper in Australia.

Yzendoorn was born in Leeds but spent most of his English life in Lincoln. He signed as an apprentice with Preston North End when he was 16 and became a full-time professional two years later when Bobby Charlton was manager. However, Preston was forced for financial reasons to cut its playing staff a year later. Yzendoorn was one of 10 players to be freed.

He played with Lancaster, then with Morecambe in the Northern Premier League before answering an advert in a Sunday newspaper calling for players to come to Australia.

At first, it looked likely that Green Gully Ajax would sign Yzendoorn. Ajax president Guy Spierli spoke to the defender but the proposed move fell through when Ajax was misled into thinking that Yzendoorn was much older.

Then Slavia stepped in. In March 1978, Yzendoorn arrived in Melbourne.

"I wasn't overly impressed with Slavia. There were good



John Yzendoorn

players there such as Steve Short, Jim Williams, Jamie Paton, Carl Gilder and Steve Aldridge, but the atmosphere was far different to what I'd been used to."

Yzendoorn played his first game for the Len McKendry-led Victorian State team in 1979 against touring Polish club Wisla Krakow. Yzendoorn has played 13 times for Victoria.

His decision to leave Slavia was made for career considerations. He wanted to enhance his reputation and status by playing in Australian soccer's premier club competition — the National League — and signed for Heidelberg, Alexander in a joint deal with Jamie Paton, for \$20,000, with a rider in the deal which netted Slavia an extra \$2000 after either, or both Yzendoorn and Paton played a certain number of games for Australia.

When Yzendoorn joined Heidelberg, John Margaritis was coach. Soon Margaritis was replaced by Manny Poulakakis, then McKendry took over in 1980.

"Manny Poulakakis is a really nice gentleman. I really think that Manny knew a fair

bit about the game, but I felt he had a problem communicating his knowledge to the players. For the most part, he let us get on with what we were doing. About seven of us were training with the State squad and learning a lot. It helped at club level."

Heidelberg Alexander had its best National League season in 1980. The club finished second in the league, was beaten in a replay for the Phillips Cup and won the grand final of the top four series. Most Heidelberg players of that era acknowledge that they have never experienced playing in a side so well drilled and so effective. For most, it's been the highlight of their club careers.

"It was disappointing in a way to have a chance at winning everything, but then winning only the top four competition. I think we took a lot of teams by surprise that year. We tried to retain possession more than most teams. People talked a lot about Gary Cole and Jamie Paton and sure, they were important. They were the players furthest forward to whom we tried to play the ball. They scored a lot of goals for us. But there were other things we developed under Len McKendry, things which went mainly unnoticed."

McKendry coached Melbourne Croatia for the first 10 games of the 1981 season, then rejoined Heidelberg until his departure late last year. For Yzendoorn, 1982 was injury-riddled. He planned a successful comeback this season but things didn't get off to a flying start under new Heidelberg coach Ken Morton.

"I was very frustrated at Heidelberg this year. I was sent off during the Ampol Cup series, which is completely out of character for me. Heidelberg was a club which had lost ambition. The president, Sam Gouloupoulos, told me that he'd be happy if the team finished half way up the league ladder. That's not good enough for me. I want to play with an ambitious club. I want to win things."

Yzendoorn heard the rumors suggesting that he was bribed to throw the Ampol Cup final against Green Gully Ajax which was coached by McKendry. The rumors hurt. They hit at his professional pride as much as his integrity.

Yzendoorn and Paton were transfer-listed by Heidelberg shortly after Ajax's 5-0 Ampol Cup win. It appeared Yzendoorn was bound for Sydney City Hawks, but the club's well-publicised financial plight killed the proposed move. Yzendoorn and Paton rejoined Heidelberg's training and played with the club in Tasmania over a weekend in May, but Paton switched to Footscray J.U.S.T. and Yzendoorn was transferred to South Melbourne Hellas for \$15,000. Hellas will play Heidelberg at the end of this season and Heidelberg will receive a hefty cut of the gate money as part of the Yzendoorn deal.

"I was sure Hellas would do well in the league at first. All the lads were enthusiastic and wanted to do well. Then we were beaten by St George and the rot set in. Certain players were getting a lot of stick from the fans, not just some of the newcomers, but also some players who had been at the club for a fair while. It's fair enough for fans to be like that when their team is losing, but it's hard to take for a player when you go out and give it everything you've got but still lose."

"When Len (McKendry) came there were a few players a bit sceptical at first. They had heard that he was a first-class coach but they'd also heard rumors that he could be a bit dogmatic. But it didn't take Len long to earn their respect and all the lads are responding to him really well. The players believe in the way he coaches. They want to learn."

Yzendoorn then is on the comeback trail with a new club. His chance of being a winner this year may rest on the outcome of the NSL Cup semi-final between Hellas and arch-rival Heidelberg, in Melbourne on October 30.

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What's that twinge?

Jim Mackay (left) broke a bone just above an ankle, playing for Victorian Metro Third Division club Sandringham recently.

Mackay, who made 52 appearances for Australia, 31 in full internationals, scored a superb 20-metre drive in the first half of the match against Port Melbourne, which Sandringham eventually won 7-3.

Mackay was injured in the second half, went off for treatment, then returned but had to limp off once more. Later, he discovered that he had a fracture just above an ankle and had severely damaged ligaments.

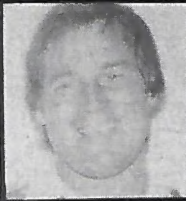
Mackay will be in plaster up to his knee for the next six weeks.

The great survivors



Photographer Les Shorroch captured three great survivors in action during the recent match between Juventus (Vic) and South Melbourne Hellas. From left, they are: Billy Rogers (left), ex-Hellas, APIA, Auburn and Sunshine, doing battle with Branko Buljevic, ex-Heidelberg-Alexander and Footscray JUST; CENTRE: Rob Cullen, ex-Makedonia and George Cross and, RIGHT: Pat Bannon, ex-Heidelberg-Alexander, also opposing Buljevic.

Who put the skids under van Egmond?



Nick van Egmond



Rudi van Altena

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Nick van Egmond claims he wasn't sacked as coach of Ringwood Wilhelmina last week over comments made in a Melbourne daily newspaper.

"Before we played Green Gully Ajax the other week a player told me he had been offered my job by someone outside the committee," said van Egmond, who was replaced as coach by Rudi van Altena.

"That was on a Sunday. The next night the committee held a meeting and a committee member put forward a resolution calling for my sacking after our 8-0 loss to Grech Gully. That same committee member had indicated to me before the Green Gully game that he understood our situation — that we had four players unavailable, and that he was happy with the job I was doing."

"On Tuesday last week I received a letter asking me to attend a committee meeting the following day. On the Wednesday, comments I had made to a journalist who had rung me up, were published and when I got home from work the club secretary was waiting for me with a letter that said my services were no longer required."

"The committee took the easy way out because I'm certain they wouldn't have appreciated what I would have had to say to them on the Wednesday night because I would have had to name someone, supposedly no longer involved with the club, who has been causing trouble."

Wilhelmina issued a press release last week which stated: "Nick was sacked because of his public criticism of one of the Ringwood players . . ."

However, two days before van Egmond's

comments were published the committee resolution to sack him was defeated 5-1, so it's clear that his position was in jeopardy well before his public comments.

I rang Alan Clark last Friday. He's the recently appointed Wilhelmina publicity officer. I asked him if van Egmond's job already was on the line before his comments in Wednesday's press.

"I can't comment on whether there was a resolution proposed at a committee meeting two days earlier, to sack him. I'm not a member of the committee. I don't even attend meetings," said Clark.

Secretary Hans Leckner attends committee meetings. He takes up the tale: "Look, Nick definitely was sacked only because of what he put in the press. That's the truth of the matter. If someone has been interfering with Nick or the players, then it's out of the committee control. We haven't been doing that," said Leckner.

Van Egmond has the last word: "I want to thank the genuine people on the committee for their support over the eight weeks I was in charge. And I want to thank the players for getting behind me the way they did. I wish them well."

Wilhelmina currently is trying to avoid finishing in one of the bottom spots in State League. This is its second coaching change this season. Mike de Bruyckere kicked off the season in charge, then van Egmond took over and now he's been superseded by van Altena.

NICK DAGLIS IMPORT MOTOR SPARES



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WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS



BACK ROW: Alan Vest (Coach), Paul Wormley (from Townsville 1983), Robbie Dunn (Azzurri S.A. 1982), Martyn Crook (Para Hills, 1976), Mickey Brennan (Manchester, 1982), Bill Arney (Newcastle, 1983), Brendan Hearn (Adelaide City Juniors).

FRONT ROW: Steve Atzeas (Juniors), Graham Heys (Newcastle, 1982), Graham Honeyman (Sydney City, 1977), Ian McGregor (Juniors), David Doorne (Juniors). Picture by PABLO PICASSO

West Adelaide hit the national map in a big way when it won the NSL title in 1978. The Greek sponsored club was formed in 1949 as Olympic and its major South Australian honors are: First Division champ in 1966, 68, 69, 71, 73, 76; Cup winner in 1964, 67; Ampol Cup winner in 1964, 68, 70, 71, 72, 75; Coca Cola Cup winner in 1974, 75.

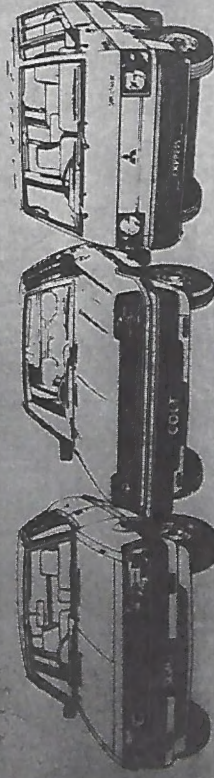
Alan Vest is in his second year as coach. Mike Johnson, Garry Cheldi, Jim Adam and Billy Birch also have coached this proud club. Wests slumped dramatically in 1980, finishing 13th in a 14-team national competition, however, the ASF recognised the club's importance to the national concept and re-instated it in the competition.

Under Vest, Wests finished 9th last season. Most critics expect a much higher finish this year. Players of the calibre of Martyn Crook, Graham Honeyman, Micky Brennan, backed by youngsters like Steve Atzeas, David Doorne and Brendan Hearn give credence to such a view.

So watch Wests go in 1983!

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WE'VE GOT THE DEALS

AJAX TO HIT TOP SPOT?

Green Gully Ajax could be sitting on top of the State League ladder by about 5 pm on Sunday after unpredictable Morwell Falcons upset Melbourne Croatia and snatch a point from their clash at Olympic Park.

Ajax takes on Box Hill at Green Gully Reserve on Sunday and will have Peter Boyle and Willie Vassallo available after suspension. Scottish import Steve McClelland came on as a substitute late in the game when Northcote last weekend and as his match fitness improves he'll give coach David Smallman interesting selection problems. And young Fabio Mancinelli did well against Northcote. He showed surprising physical qualities and

played two superb passes with his foot in the first half, sending the ball 30 metres upfield, right to the feet of Paul Lewis. Mancinelli has got what it takes. Given that of luck always needed, he'll make his mark in the game.

Croatia runs into Morwell in what looms as an attractive encounter. Morwell's strength lies in midfield and up front. Midfielder Eric Young is battling to be fit in time for this match and if he cannot shrug



Victorian State League with CRAIG MACKENZIE

off injury then Tony van Baar will take his place in the starting line-up. The best line in the Morwell side has to be in attack. In Alan Evans, Noel Mitten and Bobby McGuinness, Falcons boast one of the best striking trios in State League. The effectiveness of these quality forwards against

Croatia's well drilled back four will have a major bearing on the outcome of this match. Morwell is dodgy at the back and no doubt Croatia will exploit this. It remains to be seen then, whether or not Falcons forwards can make a game of it.

Despite all its well publicised player unrest, Croydon should find itself in the top four after this weekend's round of games, at the expense of Polonia. I tipped the Polish-sponsored outfit to be dumped out of fourth spot last weekend but it gained a reprieve when Croydon surprisingly succumbed to Fawkner at Croydon Park. Polonia won't be given a second chance. Croydon will beat South Melbourne Hellas at Middle Park on Saturday then rejoice on Sunday evening after hearing of Polonia's demise at the hands of Juventus at Raleigh Reserve earlier that day.

Northcote winger Jim Sahinidis was due to fly to Greece for family reasons as we went to press, further diminishing the quality of the first team and making Sunday's Jubilee Park clash a toss of the coin affair. Northcote striker Spiro Tsetsos saves his worst performances for my eyes, it seems. Good judges have seen him turn in some fine displays but every time I watch him, he's woeful. I'm starting to think that his career would be best served by my absence at Northcote matches.

Fawkner should defeat Albion Rovers at Smith Reserve on Sunday while Doveton and rapidly improving Sunshine-George Cross should draw at Waratah Reserve. This weekend's games with likely winners in capitals:

SATURDAY
S. M. Hellas v CROYDON at Middle Park, 3 pm.

SUNDAY
Melbourne Croatia v Morwell Falcons (draw) at Olympic Park, 3 pm.
FAWKNER v Albion Rovers at Smith Reserve, 3 pm.
Polonia v BRUNSWICK JUVENUS at Raleigh Reserve, 3 pm.

Doveton v Sun. G. Cross (draw) at Waratah Reserve, 3 pm.

G. G. AJAX v Box Hill at Green Gully Reserve, 3 pm.

Ringwood Wilhelmnia v Northcote (draw) at Jubilee Park, 3 pm.

Two magic goals from Smallman

NORTHCOTE 1 (Moore penalty 85th) GREEN GULLY AJAX 3 (Bozakis o.g. 35th, Smallman 56th, 72nd) at John Cain Reserve, Sunday.

NORTHCOTE: Giannopoulos 6 - Wright 7, Bozakis 7, Moore 7, Milos - Wilson 7, Quigley 6, Patinoletis 5 - Sahinidis 6, Tzetzos 2 (Constantinou 60th), Cullina 6. Coach: Tony Vrisan.

GREEN GULLY AJAX: Denys 7 - Peter Lewis 8, Cannell 7, Short 7, Hogben 7 - Graham 7, Mancinelli 7

(McClelland 80th), Williams 8 - Tool 8, Paul Lewis 7, Smallman 8. Coach: David Smallman.

Two superb goals from David Smallman and some great early long passing from Jim Williams and Colin Quigley were the highlights of an entertaining clash at John Cain Reserve.

First, the Smallman goals. Gully had taken the lead when a bad Mark Wilson square ball in the 35th minute was intercepted and played quickly forward to Paul Lewis who cut inside past Steve Moore and Sammy Wright, then paid the ball into the path of Smallman inside the Northcote area. The Gully player-coach hit it back hard across the face of goal and George Bozakis put the ball into the back of his own net with Paul Lewis waiting to pounce right on his tail. Then Smallman's magic captivated the second half.

He was given the ball in the 56th minute by Jim Williams, who had easily disposed Arthur Patinoletis. Smallman was at least 25 metres out and took everyone by surprise by unleashing a pilerdriver which sent the ball whistling into the far corner.

Gully was awarded a free kick a few metres outside the Northcote area in the 72nd minute. Three Gully players hid the ball from the view of Northcote goalie John Giannopoulos. Suddenly Smallman took a couple of quick passes to the ball and curled into the top right corner. It was as simple and majestic as that.

A feature of the game was the passing of Williams and Quigley. Williams' ability to quickly see up a situation and play the ball forward long and early, giving Paul Lewis one-on-one up front was enthralling. His midfield counterpart, Northcote's Quigley, at times stroked the ball about with such a plumb that he shone above most of his team mates. But Gully was too well organised at the back to get caught in one-on-one situations.

Northcote is considering naming its new pressbox, "The Fred Villiers Pressbox". It's not official, but some committee members have discussed the matter. The move has reached the ears of some members of the Victorian branch of the soccer press association and they are up in arms. To appease them, I wonder if the club would consider naming the pressbox "The Laurie Schwab, Peter Desira, Bob Brian, Les Shorrock, Craig Mackenzie, Peter Georgiou, Con Nikolopoulos, Jose Montez, Jim Bakatsoulas, Gilbert Martin, Frank Calabrian, Rocky di Zio, Manos Milos, Len Stone, Greg Blake, Jock Stephen, Branko Culina, Tony Vrzina, Zika Nikolic, Fred Villiers, Przybyla?"

PROGRESSIVE VOTES:
23 - Moore (Northcote)
20 - Cumming (Croatia)
19 - Hird (Juventus), Mila (Polonia)
18 - Kalitaditis (Hellas)
15 - Tuffield (Fawkner), MacLean (Morwell)

LEADING SCORERS:
18 - Paul Lewis (Ajax)
13 - Cumming (Croatia), Smallman (Ajax)
12 - McGuinness (Morwell)
11 - Latif, Brogan (Croatia), Przybyla (Polonia)



Two of Albion's goalscorers in its 4-3 win over Ringwood Wilhelmnia on Saturday - Alan Bennett (left) and Bennie Ferrie. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

It's Albion!

ALBION ROVERS 4 (Coyle 28th, Bennett 33rd, Gray 52nd, Ferrie 74th) RINGWOOD WILHELMINIA (Stewart 35th, Thom 67th, Whyte 86th) at Selwyn Park, Saturday.

ALBION ROVERS: Costello 6, McIvor 6 (Karapetatos H.T. 5), Douglas 6, Coyle 7, Hennessy 7, Gray 6, Bennett 6, Ferrie 5, D'Sylva 6 (McIntyre 65th), Smart 7, Reilly 8. Coach: Hugh Murray.

WILHELMINIA: Janssen 3, Pashan 4, Haugt 7, Pena 5 (Caddie H.T. 5), Brooks 8, De Kort 6 (White 70), Cork 6, Thom 7, Nyholt 5, Garvey 6, Stewart 7. Coach: Rudi van Altena.

Albion hoisted itself out of the bottom two with a precious win over doomed Ringwood City, in a game that was less a grim struggle for State League survival and more a comedy of errors.

The defences of both sides were absolutely shocking, and Rovers' coach Hugh Murray nearly had apoplexy as he saw his team twice fritter away a two goal lead and nearly drop a point in the closing stages. Ringwood came into the game under a cloud, morale-wise, with yet another coaching change taking place in the previous week, and co-selectors Rudi van Altena and Dave Brooks were forced to manage without Dave Gibson, out injured.

The game was a muddling, even enough affair until the 28th minute, when Kieron Coyle, deputising capably for Frank McLeod at sweeper, suddenly recalled that he is a good forward too, and sallied forth to volley the ball over Rick Janssen's head for the opening goal.

Ringwood looked shattered by this unexpected reverse, and five minutes later defend-

ers stood like statues whilst Alan Bennett, after an hilarious series of miskicks, air-shots and rebounds, managed to knock the ball into the net for the second.

But Ringwood had a large slice of luck only two minutes later, when a shot hit Coyle on the chest and referee Andrea Frangou decided to award a penalty. Albion goalie Tommy Costello was unlucky. He dived correctly, stopped Ken Stewart's spot-kick, but the ball wriggled away and Stewart, following up, scored from the rebound.

Ringwood's coach-of-the-week, Rudi van Altena, did more directing than a traffic policeman, and completely reshuffled the defence, with De Kort going to sweeper, Don Pasman to centre-half, Brian Caddie to right back, and the indefatigable Brooks to a roving commission that seemed to cover the entire albion half.

Whatever the plan was, it paid off, when the Albion defence got the jitters in the 67th minute and watched Brian Thom score a goal that was nearly as unbelievable as Bennett's.

Ringwood, back in the game, pressed forward eagerly, and that was their undoing, when a long ball caught Smart just on-side, and when he cut in and shot, Janssen only could parry the ball to Benny Ferrie who gleefully restored Albion's two-goal advantage.

Janssen, who was having a nightmare in goal, by now was so lacking in confidence that he was even turning pass-backs away for corners, but Albion couldn't capitalise, and the last word belonged to Ringwood when substitute Craig Whyte completely mis-hit a cross and the ball looped over Costello's head for yet another freak goal.

— LES SHORROCK

CHAPLIN RESERVE BANDWAGON STARTS TO ROLL

SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS 4 (Pate 10th, penalty 78th, Bain 39th, Stevenson 50th) SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 0 at Chaplin Reserve, Sunday.

SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS: Contini 1 - Richardson 7, O'Reilly 7, Scott 7, Taylor 9 - Stevenson 7, G. Barnett 8, Kerr 7 - Bain 7 (McGowan 78th), Gilder 8, Pate 8. Coach: Tommy Traynor.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS: Turudia 7 - Kasidias 6, Kalitaditis 6, Vardakis 7, Postecoglou 6 - Benakis 7, Kanasoulis 6, Kalkan 5 (Pashakos 78th), Abraham Cummings 7, Patsaman 6. Coach: Jim Armstrong.

Sunshine-George Cross is leaving its top four challenge late but on this showing at least, can't be ruled out of contention for a place in the State League Cup competition. And that's not just the opinion of Sunshine-George Cross people.

"That's the best I've seen the Cross play for a long time. It looked really sharp today. It was stringing passes together well and really impressed me," said Hellas coach Jim Armstrong.

Talk to the Sunshine-George Cross players and you'll discover they are united in their support of the great job being done by coach Tommy Traynor. The combine players are quick to point out that Traynor is an uncompromising taskmaster but they'll just as quickly give recognition to the job he's doing. Traynor only arrived here from Scotland this year and it hasn't taken him long to earn the respect of his squad, and that's a keynote of any coach-player relationship. It's what the combine's recent good run rests upon.

Recent rumors suggested that Traynor may soon head back to Scotland to take up a coaching appointment there but he firmly denies this. He says that he has agreed to coach Sunshine-George Cross this season and he is going to fulfil his part of that bargain.

And should the combine achieve a minor miracle by sneaking into the top four, it would greatly enhance Traynor's rapidly growing coaching reputation.

For Hellas, the fortunes of this season have been far less kind. Branko Buljevic was out injured, Steve Kakantonis was on the bench for the NSL side and young right back Manny Anezakis was serving a suspension after being sent off in the previous game against Juventus. Coach Armstrong was

forced to put himself on the bench.

The combine took the lead in the 10th minute after a free kick had been awarded by referee Galt when Carl Gilder was fouled outside the Hellas area. Norrie Pate took the free, slamming it through the defensive wall, when two Hellas defenders ducked their heads, and into goal despite a desperate attempt by Mark Turudia to parry.

Roger Bain made it 2-0 in the 39th minute after a Pate corner was headed by Gilder

and a superb John Stevenson goal five minutes into the second half put the match well out of Hellas' reach. Stevenson struck a delightful swerving lob over Turudia's head from 20 metres out and into the top far corner to make it 3-0.

Pate sent a long through ball into the right side of the Hellas area in the 78th minute for Bain. Turudia charged off his line and body-checked the combine striker. Referee Galt pointed to the spot and Pate converted for his second goal of the game.



South Melbourne Hellas midfielder Tony Kaiser

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	W	D	L	F	A	Pts				
CROATIA	14	2	2	49	8	30				
G.C. AJAX	13	4	1	43	8	30				
JUVENUS	12	4	2	35	12	28				
POLONIA	9	4	5	29	22	22				
Croydon	8	4	6	32	24	20				
Box Hill	8	3	7	25	19	19				
Sun.G. Cross	8	2	8	32	28	18				
Morwell F.	8	2	8	25	31	18				
Northcote	8	2	8	25	35	18				
Fawkner	6	4	8	28	32	16				
Doveton	5	2	11	22	34	12				
Albion R.	2	4	12	10	31	8				
Wilhelmnia	3	1	14	16	47	7				
S.M. Hellas	1	4	13	18	59	6				

Mirko Runje steps up from the youth team

The opportunity to gain representative honours for State or country is an essential part of a senior player's career.

It is a sad indictment of our game that National League clubs could not see their way clear to release one player each for an under 23 tour of New Caledonia.

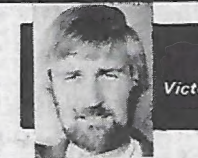
So the VSF took over the tour but when it came to selecting a Victorian under 23 team the unavailability of National League players robbed the State of some excellent talent. Players like Alan Davidson, Steve Blair, Charlie Yankos, Jeff Oliver, Ian McKie, Vlatko Belic, Con O'Sullivan, Oscar Crino and others would ob-

viously have been candidates for State honours.

It has been refreshing the way State League coaches have supported the idea of a Victorian U/23 team by making their players available.

Green Gully Ajax is anxious to retain the State League championship and Melbourne Croatia is just as anxious to win it. Juventus is starving for success and Box Hill's ambition to reach the top four is every bit as important. Doveton and Albion Rovers face a series of important fixtures as they strive for survival.

For my part I will be very sensitive to each club's ambitions and fixtures when I make my final selections.



TIM WHITE Victorian coaching director

The physical strength of the opposition was one of the factors I took into consideration when I decided not to select the young players who won the National Youth Championships.

However the form of goalkeeper Mirko Runje of Springvale City in that championship coupled with his physical at-

tributes, has tempted me to give him an opportunity to gain further experience. Another former youth team player Sean Keogh of Doveton will provide Runje's opposition for the no 1 spot.

This tour may also provide the opportunity to assess the progress of Andrew Zinni (Juventus). He had a glowing

junior career and his intensive school work and birth date made it difficult for him to gain youth teams recognition at the right time. He has overcome all this to gain a regular spot in the Juventus combinations.

Chris Bekiaris (Hellas) progressed enormously under Len Alexander. That progress was stunted for a short while when he changed clubs but his recent performances have played a big part in Hellas revival.

Paul Wade obviously is destined for the National League and I'm sure his obvious talent has improved as some of the

experience of Jim Rooney, his teammate at Croydon, has rubbed off on him. David Hogben has for a long time been overshadowed by his more illustrious team mates but he has maintained a regular spot in the successful Ajax outfit.

I have been an admirer of Ian Roodhouse's style of play for a long time and I am pleased he will be playing for my team.

Paul Lewis's goalscoring habits are credentials enough to earn him a place in my team, and it is some consolation for him as he was chosen in the Australian U23 squad.



Chris Bekiaris

VICTORIA

Table with 2 columns: Team Name and Points. Rows include various football clubs like Albion Rovers, Carlton, and others.

STATE LEAGUE

Table with 2 columns: Team Name and Points. Rows include various football clubs.

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

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RESERVES

Table with 2 columns: Team Name and Points. Rows include various football clubs.

PREVENSIONAL LEAGUE

Table with 2 columns: Team Name and Points. Rows include various football clubs.

RESERVES

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AMATEUR LEAGUE

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RESERVES

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RESERVES

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SCORES, LEADERS

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STATE LEAGUE

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METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

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RESERVES

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PREVENSIONAL LEAGUE

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STATE LEAGUE

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METROPOLITAN LEAGUE

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State Leagues are not super

From page one

When the PSL was formed, we knew that every second week a team would play "away", possibly out of town.

Why do some fans discover this basic fact only now, almost a month later? Or did they believe that Lions, Adelaide City or Footscray would bring with them plane loads of fans every time they played in Sydney?

The fact that some fans, in some cities, can see their team only every second week is another argument against the NSL, pretending that it's a uniquely Australian situation.

Manchester United, Juventus, Barcelona, Bayern Munich, etc. All play at home only every second week — and that's been accepted for almost 100 years.

But these cities also have other, lower division teams — or first division rivals such as Man City, Torino, Espanol, etc. — and people hungry for soccer can go and see them in action.

The dreadful truth is that — at least in NSW — the NSL clubs have no real option but to carry on where they are, perhaps steamlining their operations.

For them a return to what they left behind in 1976 would be to exchange a Lamborghini for a Ford — even if that Italian dreamer needs a tuning.

Hairbrained U.23 tour

It took a surprisingly unified stand by the NSL clubs to veto a hairbrained ASF idea to send a national under-23 team to Noumea.

It appears that Australia was invited to send a team to play three matches in seven days in order to help New Caledonia prepare for some internationals.

Naturally, the ASF accepted and last week a circular went out to NSL clubs informing them of this.

To pre-empt any outcry by the clubs, the circular advised them that "only one player" would be selected from each club to disrupt the season any further.

Then came the reaction of the clubs — a loud and clear "no" to the plan.

However, the aborted venture automatically poses a number of questions:

1. Why did the ASF consult the NSL clubs AFTER accepting the invitation?

2. How could we have a national under-23 team?

3. What coach worth his salt would form a team using 16 players from 16 clubs?

4. What would be the practical value to Australia of establishing such a hybrid team for an eight-day tour?

5. Did anyone in the ASF consider the implications of playing three matches in seven days in the tropics?

Juniors

Table with 2 columns: Team Name and Points. Rows include various football clubs.

Proposed new look of NSL

From page one

size of its league against the ASF's wishes.

If the NSL acts against those wishes, and accepts new clubs wanting to join it, then the only course open to action upon the ASF — if it wants to maintain its authority — is to punish the "offenders."

Inter-conference challenge games (against the other Conference) would be organised this way.

Top team of one Conference plays top team of the other Conference.

Second plays second, Third plays third, etc.

All challenge matches would be played as double-headers to maximise crowds.

A finals series would be run at the end of the season.

Top top five teams of each Conference would qualify for the finals, with the Australian Conference playing in Sydney and the National Conference in Melbourne only.

The two winners then would play the national final.

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Hird doesn't know how good he is!

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Harry Hird's not a great player, you know, just average. There's no way that he's good enough to play in the NLS. He's not even good enough to be polling so well in our Ametco Travel award for the Victorian State League Player of the Year. And you can take it from Harry that he certainly isn't the best left back in State League.

He hasn't even got a story to tell. His tale is boring. He hasn't played against any big name players, never made a name for himself in his native England and still has a bad habit of keeping his head down when in possession. But at 28, it's too late to do much about it.

What follows then, definitely isn't compulsory reading. If you're bored with Hird's story so far, turn to another page.

The one thing that Hird excels in is the ability to completely underestimate his ability, a rare trait among athletes who thrive on self confidence.

Maybe, it's his underdeveloped ego which sets Hird apart from the pack. Strange, it doesn't show, out on the field. Quite the opposite.

Hird is tall and lanky. Watch him in possession inside his defensive third of the field and under extreme pressure. You'd swear you were watching an almost arrogant performer. Never flustered, always in control, Hird plays with an air of authority when it most matters. His upright posture adds to his aura of confidence. He's skilful too but you'd never know by talking to him. "I suppose I've got a reasonable left leg," is all he'll ever offer, a concession made after much prodding.

Hird may not win our Ametco Travel award. Then again, he may. He certainly doesn't want to win the Rothmans Medal, just to be invited by the VSF to attend the annual gala presentation night of this prestigious award, is recognition enough, says Hird. He's going to be embarrassed with what follows then.

Harry Hird is the best left

back in the Victorian State League. His contract with Juventus expires this year and it has a stipulated \$2,000 maximum transfer fee clause. At that meagre price, he's not merely a bargain. He's a steal. And I know of a Melbourne-based NSL club which is well aware of his ability, obviously more aware than Hird himself.

Our correspondent, Rocky di Zio, covers many Juventus matches. Like me, he's been most impressed with Hird, and has given a few votes in our Ametco award. Hird's team mates kid him whenever di Zio is at a Juve game. "There's your uncle Rocky," they say. Hird is coy about getting so many votes.

Let's look at the background of a player "with no story to tell."

Hird comes from Bolton, in the north west of England. As a 15 year old he signed school-boy forms with Bolton Wanderers. He wasn't there long, however.

"I was too small at the time. I suppose you could call me a late developer. There were about 40 lads down there but I never got much of a look-in."

"I had a chance of going to Everton. This Everton scout saw me playing and asked me if I was tied to anyone. I said that I wasn't but I found out that I was tied to Bolton so the Everton thing never got off the ground."

Hird had a spell with Chester City, playing in the F.A. Youth Cup for the club and in the reserves. Then he joined Walkden Celtic in the Manchester and District Sunday League. There he played against his good friend,

Bob Taylor, the man responsible for bringing Hird to Australia a few years later.

Hird has a fine soccer pedigree. His grandfather played as a professional with Blackpool and Bury and his father gained selection in an England amateur squad.

When Taylor, then playing with Altona City, asked Hird to come to Australia, the defender jumped at the chance.

"I wanted to see a bit of the world and I wanted to find out if I could make anything of my football career in Australia."

Hird joined Altona for the 1979 season. He was a temporary resident on a one year contract.

"Altona's a very friendly club and I didn't want to leave. The players were good and the atmosphere was great. We finished sixth that season. Joe Wilson was coaching us at the start then John Payne took over."

Hird returned to England late in the year, planning to return to Altona in 1980. But severe injury, incurred in December when playing with an English amateur club, put paid to his plans. He had a cartilage operation, but found out later that he had an arthritic knee. Hird missed the entire 1980 season. His employer, Woolard Mitchell Young, arranged permanent residency for him and he migrated back to Australia in May, 1980. That year, Altona's financial problems surfaced in the extreme.

"The club was in debt and a lot of players left at the end of the season. Joe Wilson and John Innes were coaching Juventus at the start of 1981 and I joined them on a free transfer."

Hird played with Juventus during the 1981 Ampol Cup. I wrote in "Soccer Action" that he was completely outplayed by Northcote winger Jim Sahinidis in an Ampol Cup match. That rankled the usually unflappable Hird who never spoke about my article to me until last year, after a Juventus match, mid-season.

"I thought that I had played okay but you gave me a terrible slugging in the paper. I thought you didn't like me for some reason, even though we'd never met. But to be

truthful, I don't really take much notice of the press. But I've never forgotten that article."

Juventus, 1981 style, was a disaster. Wilson coached the first team for about 10 weeks before being sacked. A caretaker coach was appointed for three games then Tony Boggi took over.

"Joe Wilson was too much of a nice guy. Joe's a really good bloke but I think he was a bit too easy on star players like Bobby McGuinness."

"Tony Boggi's a good organiser. I don't think he really coaches as such. He's more of a motivator. I've got a lot of time for Tony."

"I can't even tell you the name of the guy who took over for a few weeks until Tony was appointed, but that was when I walked out of the club. I turned up for a match and this guy put me on the bench. Mendo Ristovski and Charlie Smith were playing even though they hadn't been training. It was Tony Boggi who got me to come back to the club."

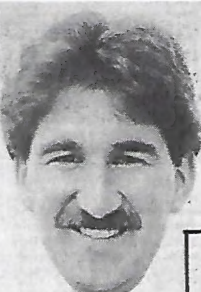
"We finished second bottom in 1981 but we all knew that we wouldn't get relegated. That was the word going around the club and it proved right. The State League was increased from 12 to 14 clubs and the following year Juventus had almost a complete new side."

The three Bannan brothers, Paddy, Vince and Ged, joined Juve in 1982 as did Graham French, Gary Clayton, Kevin Swinscoe, Jim Nelson and Andrew Zinni. Juventus finished in the top four last year but Boggi joined Morwell.

Falcons and former South Melbourne Hellas star player and coach, John Margaritis, was appointed as his successor.

"John Margaritis easily is the best coach I've played under. He just talks so much sense about the game. And the lads we've got now are the best bunch I've ever played with."

Hird admits that he lacks confidence. It's the one area of accurate self analysis I was able to pry from him. Then again, it was during an off-field conversation. Harry Hird, left back, is a princely performer. He just doesn't realise it.



By PAUL MOON

Richard Wilson

The omission of Richard Wilson from New Zealand's Olympic qualifying tournament squad does not necessarily signal the end of the Preston Makedonia star's international career.

New Zealand coach Allan Jones stressed this when interviewed recently for the Japanese magazine "Soccer Journal".

"I spoke to Richard in Melbourne, prior to our game against Aussie in February," Jones revealed. "He is still keen to play for his country and I have by no means shut the door on him. His attitude is excellent and I am well aware he is playing magnificently for Preston. New Zealand has a glut of good goalkeepers at the moment but Richard is by no manner out of contention for my future squads — not by a long way."

Wilson is not the only Australian-based Kiwi goalkeeper to have impressed Jones recently, for he obviously is following the progress of Newcastle KB United's Clint Gosling with more than passing interest.

"We have received some excellent reports on Clint — and he too will be considered," the All-Whites' coach stated. "Any New Zealander who plays soccer at a reasonable level is a contender for the squad, which is always changeable."

Jones has good reason to be pleased with the depth of goalkeeping talent at his disposal, but admitted he is concerned about an apparent lack of firepower up front, particularly with Wynton Ruler's availability now in doubt, as the New Zealand federation and FC Zurich have yet to agree terms for the young striker's release to play, although the Swiss have declared him available for inclusion in the squad and training.

The only other Kiwi with a proven record as goalscorer at international level — Steve Wooddin of South Melbourne Hellas — has withdrawn from the national squad as has defender Glen Dods of Adelaide Juventus.

NZ chance for Gosling, Wilson



Clint Gosling of Newcastle

Brazil course

South Australia's Mike Wells achieved a first for an Australian-based director of coaching when he recently completed a four-week study course at the Brazilian Football Academy in Rio.

Wells received two "excellents" for tactical and technical sections and was the only candidate to get through the university section.

"I was most impressed with the humility of leading persons like Dr. Havelange, Carlos Alberto Parreira and such former star players as Carlos Alberto, Nilton Santos, Gerson and Orlando," said Wells.

"All were keen to talk and while it was I who was seeking information from them, I invariably ended up telling them about the coaching set-up in Australia, because they showed so much interest in what we are doing here."

Wells' study tour was mainly self financed. At the end of August he is off to Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Zambia and Kenya to represent the commonwealth government of Australia on a cultural relations visit.

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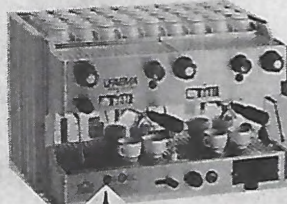
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Auguri alla Juventus, al Fawkner, al Morwell e a tutte le squadre italiane nei campionati minori.

"Compromesso storico" per salvare il calcio Australiano

Questa settimana le imprese delle squadre italiane, che hanno sovravvinto la giornata nera della settimana scorsa, passano in second'ordine di fronte alla riunione della ASF per decidere cosa fare delle proposte avanzate a suo tempo dalla Lega Nazionale ed osteggiate aspramente dalle federazioni statali.

Nella ultime settimane avevano assistito ad un braccio di ferro fra la NSL e le federazioni statali che, come controparte, avevano avanzato un progetto di "superleghe" statali con un torneo finale nazionale.

Era ovvio che un sistema escludesse l'altro e che le "superleghe" non avrebbero potuto funzionare senza il ritorno all'ovile delle squadre militanti in NSL e che, allo stesso tempo, la NSL non poteva continuare nel suo presente formato senza l'immissione di sangue nuovo nella forma di squadre statali dal buon seguito (reale o potenziale) come la Juventus e il Croatia di Melbourne in-

nanziute, e quindi George Cross e Fawkner.

A proposito delle squadre italiane Juventus e Fawkner, sembra ci sia stata una certa campagna di convinzione emanata dalla NSL per favorire l'unione dei due club. Per quanto siamo convinti linea generale che ci siano troppi club italiani, non vediamo la necessità "ne" il vantaggio di amalgamare Fawkner e Juventus.

Le due squadre sono così diverse l'una dall'altra e rappresentano interessi completamente opposti: la tradizione e l'universalità della Juventus fa riscontro al vigore giovanile e all'interesse localizzato del Fawkner. Tutte due hanno basi diverse di appoggio e creano perciò quella importante componente di campanilismo tanto importante allo sport del calcio. A questo proposito basti guardare alla comunità greca che ha due squadre nella NSL, i Melbourne e che costituisce il più grande pubblico calcistico appunto nei derby fra Hellas e Hidelberg. Poiché la spinta all'unione Juventus-Fawkner sembra venga appunto da una fonte greca, non ci meravigliremo se alla base di tale mossa ci siano gli interessi appunto delle squadre greche, piuttosto che delle squadre italiane che, ambedue, hanno ottimi motivi di esistere e ottime basi su cui prosperare.

Tornando alla politica calcistica, nonostante la profezioni di rottura e colpi di testa che avrebbero potuto causare l'intervento della FIFA, nella riunione di sabato scorso a Sydney, fra gli stati e un rappresentante della NSL che formano assieme il consiglio della ASF, si è verificato un vero e proprio "compromesso storico".

Molto intelligentemente la NSL ha proposto che il piano di aumentare a 24 le squadre della sua competizione e quindi a dividerla in due gironi vada avanti sotto la direzione generale dell'ASF, con l'aggiunta di un sottocomitato coordinante, e che i due gironi siano amministrati dalle federazioni del Victoria e del NSW.

La proposta ha accontentato un po' tutti e gli stati hanno quindi fatto marcia indietro, accettandola in linea di massima e riservandosi di discuterla in dettagli per mezzo di un sottocomitato di studio e quindi finalizzare tutto in un'altra riunione che dovrà aver luogo nel prossimo futuro.

A meno di imprevedibili ripensamenti sembra perciò che la lega nazionale regionalizzata diventerà una realtà dalla prossima stagione con l'aggiunta, in Victoria, di squadre come la Juventus e il Croatia (di sicuro), più altre che dovrebbero uscire dalla lista di George Cross, Fawkner, Polonia, Green Gully e, forse, Morwell.

Non omissio che rallegrarci di come sono andate le cose e sperare che ora ci sia un maggiore accordo in campo amministrativo in modo che lo sport del calcio in Australia possa progredire secondo le sue grandi possibilità.

JUVENTUS IN CANTIERE

La barca della Juventus sembra sia stata messa in ca-

niere per apportare delle vertiche e delle riparazioni in seguito a perdita di velocità accusata nelle ultime regate (proprio il contrario di "Azurra" che invece migliora da una regata all'altra). Margaritis che è un tecnico accorto e innovatore ha quindi mandato in campo la sua squadra con una impostazione molto diversa. Sono rimasti fuori Rogers Zinni, Incantale e stato arretrato e Cullen ha finalmente trovato un posto tutto suo in attacco. Nelson ha ricevuto maggior, e meritata, fiducia nonostante il colpo di testa della settimana precedente quando aveva abbandonato la panchina. Ed è bene notare che i responsabili juventini (Margaritis e il direttore tecnico Caruso) non abbiano preso provvedimenti disciplinari contro il giovane giocatore, capendone l'esplosione di insoddisfazione.

Zinni non è stato affatto messo da parte, anzi è sceso in campo nella ripresa in sostituzione di Nelson. La squadra sembra aver manovrato un po' meglio delle settimane precedenti anche se ha accusato nuovamente la sterilità in attacco di cui era diventata famosa all'inizio del campionato.

Comunque, con il perfezionamento del nuovo schema e con il possibile rientro di Kevin Swincoe, potrebbe anche darsi che le cose miglioreranno al punto di riportare la Juventus fra le serie contendenti al primato statale (Croatia e Green Gully permettendo) con una perdita di almeno un punto nella lotta indiretta.

Con questo non vogliamo dire che il gioco è fatto, ma solo che Margaritis per lo meno sta prendendo del provvedimento che potrebbero anche essere efficaci. In tema di Juventus, ricordiamo la tournée-vacanza in Bali in Novembre, per giocatori, dirigenti e tifosi: il costo si aggira sugli \$800 a persona (questi dovrebbero essere a portata di molte tasche). Gli interessati a prendersi parte possono mettersi in contatto con Joe Caruso o con la signorina Josie Caruso al 312 4711.

FAWKNER RINGIOVANITO

Il Fawkner ha la insolita caratteristica di aver cominciato il campionato come formazione giovane, di essere quindi alquanto invecchiata nel vano tentativo di rinforzarsi e di essere di nuovo ringiovanita guardando al futuro: il tutto nello spazio di pochi mesi.

Domenica scorsa ha colto una brillante vittoria sul difficile campo del Croydon con una formazione imbutita di ragazzi, alcuni provati, alcuni appena esordienti. Il risultato è stato inaspettato e spettacolare. Il giovane Giacomini, dopo la prima prova della settimana scorsa, ha ricevuto i galloni di titolare in campo ed ha confermato le sue grandi qualità. Anselma ha finalmente ritrovato la fiducia del tecnico azzurro, che lo aveva relegato in panchina per far posto ai nuovi arrivati, ed il giovanissimo Petruccielli ha avuto un ottimo esordio. Inoltre in panchina c'erano gli altri due promettentissimi

ragazzi Palmariocciotti e Sanpini.

Era questo che noi avevamo raccomandato all'inizio dell'anno ai responsabili del Fawkner che, oltre a non averci dato ascolto, avevano preso male il consiglio dato con onesto desiderio di vederli andar discretamente bene nel loro primo anno in Lega Statale senza fare troppe spese e senza tradire le speranze dei giovani che avevano nelle proprie file o che vi erano stati attirati all'inizio di stagione. Il nostro compito è quello di dare consigli, il compito del club è decidere da se stessi quello che è meglio per loro.

MORWELL BENE, MA CONTRO CHI?

Il Morwell ha colto una facile vittoria per 3-0 su Polonia che, sulla carta almeno è un avversario di tutto rispetto occupando la quarta posizione in classifica, ma in effetti è diventato poco più di un materasso nelle ultime settimane. La squadra polacca ha un'età media troppo alta ed una condizione fisica media troppo scadente e sicuramente finirà il campionato in una posizione di molto inferiore alla sua presente.

Quindi la facile vittoria non deve indurre il Morwell all'euforia del bel gioco con la quale l'hanno conquistata non deve trarre all'inganno poiché è risapato che i Falconi sanno giocare, specialmente se l'avversario di turno permette loro di giocare come vogliono. Quanto sia valido il Polonia, e perciò quanto meritevole sia la vittoria azzurra, lo vedremo la settimana prossima quando gli sconfitti incontreranno una Juventus non certo in forma smagliante. Noi pensiamo che i bianconeri andranno a nozze contro Milla e compagni. Staremo a vedere.

RISCOSSA ITALIANA

Nelle divisioni minori delle vittorie della maggio parte delle squadre italiane, o comunque risultati utili. Innanzitutto il Thomastown, specialista dei pareggi, ha colto una netta quanto importante vittoria per 4-1 sul modesto Prahran per avvicinarsi così al drappello di testa; a quota 23 (con altre due squadre che supera in virtù di un miglior quoziente reti) si trova ora in quarta posizione, ad un punto dalla terza, quattro dalla seconda e cinque dalla prima. Pur se la vittoria in campionato può essere ormai svanita, non è ancora compromessa irrimediabilmente quella della promozione in quanto a posizione in classifica, anche se aver battuto il Prahran di per se stesso non significa tanto come consistenza di squadra.

Altra bella vittoria quella della Triestina, nella quarta divisione della lega metropolitana. I "muletto" hanno battuto l'Hawthorn ed ora si trovano a quota 22, in sesta posizione, ma a soli tre punti dalla capolista e quindi con tutte le possibilità ancora intatte.

Nella prima divisione della Provisional League l'East Brunswick Abruzzo ha pareggiato con l'Hawkesburn e conserva la seconda posizione in classifica, mentre il Bullen

ha perso di misura contro il Melton e si è staccato ancora di più dalla coppia di testa e dal Clifton Hill che occupa la terza poltrona.

Nella quarta divisione l'East Carlton continua la sua serie di imbattibilità che dura ormai da otto settimane essendo riuscito ad impattare con il Geelong United: portandosi così a quota 18, in terza ultima posizione ma a sole tre lunghezze dalla quinta classificata.

Ma quello che è molto più interessante, nelle competizioni minori, è l'ottimo comportamento delle squadre riserve e giovanili italiane.

Nella seconda divisione troviamo le riserve del Thomastown saldamente in cima alla classifica, con due punti di vantaggio ed una differenza reti di 57/20; nella seconda divisione la Triestina è seconda in classifica, ed un punto di distacco dal Fernree Gully e con due punti di vantaggio sulla terza classificata. Nella prima divisione della Provisional League non una, ma due italiane sono in testa: Bullen e East Brunswick guidano con 31 punti ciascuna di fronte al Yarraville. Nella prima divisione della lega dilettanti il Westall è primo di gran lunga (sette punti sull'altra italiana Ascot United). Ed infine nella lega giovanile Juventus e Bullen sono in cima ai due rispettivi gironi.

Gray, MBE

Eddie Gray, the former Leeds and Scottish international, now manager of the Yorkshire club, has been awarded the MBE. Gray has been a player with Leeds for 16 years.

McMahon

Aston Villa beat Liverpool for the fourth of 21-year-old Steve McMahon, the Everton and England Under 21 midfielder whose transfer cost \$800,000.

Brown quits

Goalscoring machine Tony Brown, who netted 261 for West Bromwich Albion during his long association with the club, has hung up his boots after finishing his career in the Alliance League.

Top average

Brian Stein, Luton Town's South African born striker who was in and out of the side all season through injury, nevertheless made a valuable contribution to keeping the Hatters in the First Division. Stein banged in 15 goals in only 19 appearances.

Stoke's loss

Stoke City has lost its sponsorship from Ricoh, the camera company which ploughed \$200,000 into the club coffers over the past two years.

Fashanu

Justin Fashanu's young brother, John, of Norwich City, who was set to try his luck in Holland, has now signed for Southampton.

VIVA ITALIA!

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YUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA

PREPOR "PLAVIH" UGDONA STVAR- NOST

JUST se je vratio iz Sidneja sa tri boda, što je malo ko očekivao. Međutim, "plavi" su odavno najavili da se ne predaju sudbini i to su potvrdili na zelenom polju zadnje tri utakmice, koje su im donele 7 bodova i skok za dva mesta na tabeli Nacionalne lige. Zadnje četiri utakmice donele su "plavima" isto onoliko bodova koliko prvih 14. Neosporno JUST je doživio preporod što nije više varka, ali postoji opasnost da preterani optimizam pokvari rezultate muktornog. Samo jedan poraz može da povrati "plave" u opasnu zonu, kao što nova pobeda može da ga popne u sredinu tabelle, jer 4 kluba imaju svega 12 do 2 boda više od JUSTA.

Prema vestima iz Sidneja JUST je pobedio Marconi sa 1:0 zahvaljujući Denis Bolando, koji je bio junak ove utakmice. Strelac je bio Joe Carroll iz jednog uspešnog protivnapada. Navala je znaci još uvek Ahilova peta, što dokazuje najmanji broj datih golova u Nacionalnoj ligi. Tako ne bi smelo da bude sa igračima kova Joe Carroll, koji je najveći inajefitnijim dobitak "plavih". Jamie Patona i razume se veterana Zdravka Lujica. Nije samo njihova krivica što nema više golova, već i srednjeg reda, koji ih slabo snabdeva korisnim loptom. Zbog čestih povreda i kaznenih poena najviše trpi bas ta sredina, koja je kima svakog dobrog tima. Prvo je nedostajao Stj Curovic, a sada kapiten Igor Hazabent, što mnogo znaci za ekipu u izgradnji. Curovic je pored Bolanda bio najbolji igrač "plavih" tima.

Sledeći protivnik je Sydney Olympic, koji je JUST pobedio u prvom delu prvenstva, što ne znaci mnogo, jer ovaj dinamičan tim još uvek reflektira na prvo mesto. Glavna atrakcija ovog tima je kontroverzalni menadžer Tomi Dockery, koji je nekoliko puta menjao misljenje o "plavima", posto je uvek progutao goru pipulu. Nadamo se da ce to biti i ovog puta, jer JUST ima na svojoj strani vernu publiku i visoki moral, posle 4 uzastopna uspeha.

MAKEDONIJA GRCEVITO CUVU PRVO MESTO

Leichtard/APIA umalo sto nije iznenadila Makedoniju usred Melbourne, ali trener Peter Ollerton je na vreme uvidao da je proslo njegovo vreme, pa je svoje mesto ustupio Livingstonsu, sto je preporodilo ceo tim. George McMillan je preuzeo svoju pravu ulogu u navali, koja je naglo oživela i postigla dva vredna gola. Moglo je biti još golova, ali je sreca poslužila oba tima, specijalno Makedoniju, koju je spasla stativa. Ovaj rezultat potvrđuje da tek nastaje prava borba za vrh tabelle, a pobedice ovaj tim koji ima najbolje nerve.

Sledeći protivnik je Adelaide City, koji je pao na niske niske grane i ne bi smeo biti velika prepreka iako se utakmica igra u Adelaidi, na Olympic Sports Fieldu.

NOVE POBEDE CROATIJE I AJAKSA

Trka za naslov prvaka Viktorije nastavlja se sa nesmanjenom zestiom izmedju Croatije i Ajaksa, dva ozbiljna kandidata za Nacionalnu ligu Australije, koja ce se verovatno prosiriti iduce godine i okupiti najkvalitetnije klubove cele Australije. Croatia je iako pobedila Box Hill sa 3:0, ali je znacajna pobeda Ajaksa sa 3:1 nad Northcote Cityem, koji u zadnje vreme igra izvanredno pobeda Cirkovicevog Fawknara nad Croydon Cityem sa 3:2 u gostima i falconsa nad Polonijsom sa 3:0, sto je ovu zadnju potpuno izbacilo iz trke za naslov prvaka.

PRVA DIVIZIJA

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Richmond je iznenadio lidera Frankston Pines na njegovom terenu, gde mu je uzeo bod, posto se utakmica završila nerešeno 2:2. Frankston Pines je vodio sa 2:0, ali Dragan Vasic je u kritičnom trenutku smanjio na 2:1, što je dalo krila igračima Richmonda, tako da su sa malo sportske sreće mogli odneti oba boda. Dragan Vasic ce svoje pucacke vrline moći da potvrdi sledeće nedelje protiv Western Suburbsa, iako bi radije gledao JUSTa.

DRUGA DIVIZIJA

RINGWOOD/SRBIA-DRUGI TIM J.U.S.T. a 3:2 (1:1). Blatnjav teren je idealno odgovarao iskusnijim igračima Ringwood/Srbije, koji su ipak sretno pobedili "plave", jer su dobili dva gola poklonjena na tanjiru. Posto su gosti povel sa 1:0 i promislili par lepih prilika, naglo su ukopali sami sebe. Prvo je Nedeljko Rajic poslao loptu glavom u sopstvenu mrežu, a zatim je golman ispuatio loptu pred noge iskusnog Georgea Gillana, koji nije mogao da promisi praznu mrežu i da je ideo. Demoralisanog JUSTa bilo je iako savladati posle ovih kikseva, koje ne prave ni juniori. Ali to nije novost za "plave", koji su na sličan način izgubili zadnjih šest utakmica iako su uvek bili bolji od protivnika. Ringwood/Srbija ima nedak da se kvalifikuje za prelazak u prvu diviziju, ako se pozrtvovano bude borila kao protiv drugog tima JUSTA. Strelci: George Gillan, Jimmy Wyllie i autogol Nedeljke Rajica za Srbiju, Anthony Clayworth i Pavle Simic za JUST. Rezerve su igrali nerešeno 2:2. Strelci za JUST: Zoran Parasos i Ivica Karic. U subotu 6. avgusta "plavi" dočekuju Dandenong City u Footscrayu, dok Srbija gostuje u Keiloru.

ST ALBANS/DINAMO - DRUGI TIM MAKE-
DONIJE 1:1 (0:0). Da nije Lube Petrovski odbio da igra za drugi tim Makedonije, verovatno bi Dinamo izgubio oba boda iako je igrao na svom terenu, punom blata i vode. Vojtek je doveo svoj tim u vodstvo iz jedanaesterca, koji je subija prestrogo dosuđio. Nije to bio najbolji udarac, jer je golman Ofrankos dobro procenio pravac klopote i bacio se na pravi stranu. Jedino je pogresio sto je pokušao da uhvati loptu izmedju da boksuje, pa se tako od stativice odbila u mrežu. Izjednacio je Arthur Christov, koji je idealno poslužio Boge Karevski. Rezerva Makedonije pobedila je sa 4:2 (3:1). Strelci: Mile Sokolevski, Mike Caizazzo, Vasko Jankulovski i Con Papis. U subotu 6. avgusta drugi tim Makedonije dočekuje Thomastowna, a St Albans gostuje u Springvalu.

PRVA PROVIZIONALNA DIVIZIJA

CARLTON/MLADOST - CLIFTON HILL 0:3 (0:0). Rezultat je nerealan, jer je Mladost imala od igre, ali neprecizne pucace. Gosti su posle odmore iz tri prodora osigurali pobedu. Mladost je Nastupila

bnež 4 povredjena igrica, tako da su rezervni igraci odigrali po dve utakmice toga dana. Sledeći protivnik je Melton, sto ce biti teska utakmica, jer se oba kluba bore za opstanak.

HAWSKURN - EAST BRUNSWICK 2:2 (1:2). Od sredine aprila, kada je dobio zadnju utakmicu Hawksburn nije igrao ovako dobro. Golove su postigli Tior Mistic sa 20 metara izkosa i Istvan Laslo, koga je idealno poslužio Stjepan Kanton. Rezerve su igrali nerešeno 0:0. Sldecu utakmicu Hawksburn igra u gostima protiv Monash Univerziteta.

LALOR/SLOGA se vratila sa jednim bodom iz Bal-larata, gde je igrala nerešeno 1:1, iako je imala vise od igre. U subotu 6. avgusta Sloga dočekuje Buleena na svom igralistu, sto ce biti teska i zanimljiva utakmica, jer oba tima pretenduju na prva tri mesta.

TRECA PROVIZIONALNA DIVIZIJA

BRATSTVO/JEDINSTVO - DALLAS CITY 3:0 (3:0). Posto su uspesno završili posao od odmora, igraci domaceg tima nisu vise iteli da se prijavu na blatnjavom terenu. Strelci: Milan Stojilovic 2 Milenko Culbrk. Najbolji igraci: Dragoslav Jelici, Djuro Sivec i Goran Veljovic. Rezerva je doživela prvi poraz u prvenstvu. Gosti su pobedili sa 2:1 (1:0), a posacni gol dao je Nebojsa Dragojevic u 80. minutu. U subotu 6. avgusta igra se Jugo-derbi ove divizije iz-medju Pelistera i Braistva/Jedinstva na Cole Reserve u Pascoe Valu. To je poslednja prilika za Pelistera da ugrozi Braistvo/Jedinstvo na celu tabelle, iako je sigurno da ce se oba "plava" tima iduce godine takmiciti u drugoj provizionalnoj diviziji.

MITCHAM - PASCOE VALE/PELISTER 0:1 (0:1). Pelister je dobio ovu vaznu utakmicu bez dva najbolja igraca. Pored toga igrao je najveći deo utakmice sa 10 igrača, jer je Jane Bogojevski dobio crven karton dva minuta posle ponedonošnog gola, koji je postigao u 25. minutu. Rezerva Pelistera je vodila sa 4:3, kada je sudija glavne utakmice zatražio da se utakmica prekine u 65. minutu, da se ne bi "pokvario" teren, koji je inace bio kaljuža, u kojoj se ni svinje ne bi valjale.

WEST GEELONG/MAKEDONIJA - ALTONA/VOJVODINA 3:2 (1:2). Vojvodina je povel sa 2:0 i igrala dobri sve dok subija nije pocio da "deli" pravdu u korist domaceg tima. Priznao je gol, iako lopta nije pala golcrtu, pored drugih gresaka u korist domaceg tima. Obi gola za Vojvodinu postigao je Slobodan Dimitrijević, a najbolji igrač bili su Vojko Dupor, Steve Vojna i Miki Cvetkovski. U subotu 6. avgusta Vojvodina je domacin Brunswick Cityu, dok West Geelong dolazi u goste Dallas Cityu.

AMATERSKO PRVENSTVO

BOSNO - GAS CORPORATION 23:1 (10:1). Ako

nam gas poskupi vise nego sto se nadamo krivicu treba baciti na igrace Bosne, koji su podigli inflaciju na 23%. Strelci: Tiro Hadziabdic 11 golova (a pro-masio je jos 15). Bruno Alekic 6, Branko Gavran 2, Marko Fode, Enes Ahmetovic, Nurko Corva i Mirko Roganovic po jedan. Sa ovom pobedom Bosna je praktično obezbedila prvo mesto, iako postoje teorijske mogućnosti da i Crvena zvezda bude prvak. Bosna je slobodna sledeće nedelje posto je ispala iz Amaterskog kupa.

WESTMEADOWS - CRVENA ZVEZDA 1:1 (0:1). Zvezda je povel vec u 2. minutu preko Petro Krnica, koji je postigao gol iz solo prodora, posto je prosao pola igralista i pola tuceta igrača. Ovaj gol je bio dovoljan da Zvezda osvaji oba boda da sudija nije izmislio jedanaesterac pred kraj igre. Posto je promasio loptu, protivnicki igrač se srušio u kaljužu, iako nije bilo ni muve blizu njega. Medjnasji je podigao svoju prijavu maramicu i sudija je sa sredine terena pokazao na belu taktu, posto se pola minuta borio sa svojom (necasnom) savescu Zvezda izmagubila vazan bod, ali ne i nadu da sacuva titulu amaterskog prvaka Melbourne. Ovu utakmicu "crveno-beli" su odigrali bez tri najbolja igrača (Mladen Mutic, Vasko Kalapac i Slavko Vasic). Najbolji su bili Petar Krnic i Sasa Milenkovic, iako je odigrao dve naporene utakmice na blanjavom terenu. Zato se obrukao njegov otac Toma, koji za rezervu nije iskoristio jedanaesterac u 3. min., a dva minuta kasnije igra rukom u svom kaznenom prostoru. Istina slucajno, ali je pomogao protivniku da povede sa 1:0. Za Tominu utihu je, sto je Andrija Ostojic promasio jedanaesterac, dok je Slavko Drilic pogodio stativu, od koje se lopta zarila u blato. Nije cudo sto je rezervu Westmeadows pobedila sa 3:0. Ni Zvezda ne igra iduce nedelje, jer je takode ispala iz Amaterskog kupa.

JUNIORSKI REZULTATI

Ispod 10 godina: J.U.S.T. - Altona Gate/Vardar 1:2 (0:1).
Ispod 11 godina: J.U.S.T. - Croatia 2:1 (0:0). Sa ovom neoccekivanim pobedom "plavi" su se plasirali u polufinale juniorskog kupa. Strelci: Damir Gnjidic 2 za JUST, Stan Marusic za Croatia J.U.S.T. - Keilor/Austrija 5:0 (3:0). Strelci: Robert Tripunovski 3 i Dragan Surbevski 2.
Ispod 12 godina: J.U.S.T. - Werribee 3:0 (0:0). Strelci: Sasa Naumovski 2 i Sasa Becvinski. BRATSTVO/JEDINSTVO - SOUTH PARKMORE 3:1 (0:1). Strelci: Tai Tran, Edi Cola i Bata Marijano-
Ispod 13 godina: Mossfield "A" - J.U.S.T. 1:3 (1:1). Strelci: Orec Fulkovski, Milovan Marjanovic i Marjan Marinkovic. PASCOE VALE/PELISTER - ASCOT VALE CITY 3:1. Sva tri gola postigao je Pepi Colakovski.

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ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΩΝ ΟΜΑΔΩΝ ΑΠΟ ΤΟ ΣΗΜΕΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΕΝΑΛΤΥ

ΜΑΚΕΔΟΝ: ΝΙΚΗ 2-1 ΜΕ ΑΙΩΝΙΑ

Το Μάβερν Σίτυ που ισορροπεί με το Χόλ-
λαντ Πάρκ στην 1η θέση παρόλογο να κνεί
την εκπλήξη και να χσεί από σχεδόν τελευ
ταίο Σκοθ Γιάρα που είχε προηγηθεί 1-0.
Τελικά ο Λιχόρδης με πένταλο Ισοφάρισε
στό 80' και στό 87' ο Ιόιος παίκτης ζελά-
σσωσε την ελληνική ομάδα με ένα καλύτερο
τέρμα.

Έπεισαν οι Γεωργίου, Σταθόπουλος, Παπαδό-
πουλος, (Μαυρίδης), Σαυατζής, Πετρόπουλος, Λι-
χόρδης, Ροδόσιος, Τόμπος, Μενίλης, Δελιγιάννης
και Μυριατόπουλος.
Η Β' ομάδα νίκησε 5-0 (Μαυρίδης 3, Ξρονάς
και Μπαμράκης).

ΝΕΑ ΝΙΚΗ ΤΗΣ ΑΘΕΑΣ 2-0 ΚΑΙ 2 ΒΑΘΜΟΥΣ

ΜΙΡΟΤΣΑ - ΕΚΟΡΡΕ: ΚΟΥΤΡΟΥΒΕΛΗΣ ΚΑΙ
ΑΛΑΚΟΠΟΥΛΟΣ - ΠΡΩΤΟΣ ΠΑΙΚΤΗΣ Ο ΤΖΙΜΕΣ
ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΥ

Η δόξα Γιάραβλι άντετερη ο δλο τό δι-
σσημα του άγώνα με τό ζεκαπατον, ήρε οί-
κεια την νίκη 2-0 με τέρματα πού πέτυχαν
δ Κουτρουβέλης στό 57' και δ Αλακόπουλος



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DON McLEOD
(Heidelberg)

HEIDELBERG V MARCONI

Olympic Village K.O 3pm

Previous results

'77.....	1-8
'78.....	4-1
'79.....	3-2
'80.....	3-3
'81.....	1-1
'82.....	2-1



ROD BROWN
(Marconi)



JAMIE PATON
(Footscray)

FOOTSCRAY V SYDNEY OLYMPIC

Schintler Reserve K.O. 3pm

Previous results

'77.....	1-0
'78.....	2-3
'79.....	0-1
'80.....	—
'81.....	1-1
'82.....	1-1



TONY DAKOS
(Sydney Olympic)